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International Conference on Cambodian Aid Held

Cambodian Premiers Arrive 9 Mar

OW0903005394 Tokyo KYODO in English 0013 GMT 9 Mar 94

[Text] Tokyo, March 9 KYODO—Cambodian co-Premiers Prince Norodom Ranariddh and Hun Sen arrived at Narita Airport Wednesday for a four-day stay in Japan to attend a conference on reconstruction aid for Cambodia. The premiers will also meet Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa during their first visit to Japan since their administration was launched in September.

They are accompanied by Prince Norodom Sirivut, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, Sam Rangsi, economy and finance minister, Chea Chanto, planning minister, and Keat Chhon, senior minister in charge of rehabilitation and development.

Delegations from 32 countries, the European Union and 12 international organizations will attend the second meeting of the International Committee on Reconstruction of Cambodia (ICORC), scheduled for Thursday and Friday in Tokyo.

Participants will assess Cambodia's mid- to long-term aid requirements and discuss how to improve its capacity to absorb and utilize aid.

Marshall Plan for Cambodia Urged

OW1003020694 Tokyo KYODO in English 0138 GMT 10 Mar 94

[Text] Tokyo, March 10 KYODO—A two-day international conference on the reconstruction of Cambodia opened in Tokyo on Thursday [10 March] with an appeal from King Norodom Sihanouk for a modern-day "Marshall Plan" to help put the war-ravaged country back on its feet. Sihanouk's message, sent from Beijing, where he has been undergoing medical treatment, was conveyed to the International Committee on the Reconstruction of Cambodia (ICORC) by the monarch's son, Cambodian First Prime Minister Norodom Ranariddh.

The meeting, chaired by Japan, is being attended by delegates from 32 countries, the European Union and 12 international organizations, including U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher.

"I would say that the gift of which my country has the greatest need, having suffered from so many years of turpitude and devastation, is none other than a new unconditional Marshall Plan gauged to specific needs," the message said. He was referring to a multibillion dollar plan drawn up by then U.S. Secretary of State George Marshall in the late 1940s to rehabilitate the shattered economies of post-World War II Europe.

The ailing monarch enumerated six priority areas for external assistance—basic human needs in terms of sufficient access by the population to food and medical care, agricultural and rural development, infrastructure repair, environmental protection, education and technical training, and industrialization.

He placed most importance on improving conditions in rural communities, where about 80 percent of all Cambodians eke out a living, most of them "lacking even a roof over the head, sufficient resources, work or the prospect of finding any."

Ranariddh, who was accompanied to the conference by Second Prime Minister Hun Sen, said his government supports the "very just recommendations" of the king, who under the new Cambodian Constitution reigns but does not govern.

"Cambodia deserves your help because it helps itself," he said, adding that the government, in the five months since its formation after last May's U.N.-supervised general election, has set tough objectives for itself and accomplished a great deal in spite of meager resources.

Heeding international recommendations, he said, it has implemented administrative structural reforms, put its finances in order, stabilized the currency and worked out a satisfactory budget.

The government's next step is to present a new liberal investment code in line with the goal to develop a market economy with minimal state intervention, he said, apparently hinting at the unveiling of the code during the conference.

Japanese Foreign Minister Tsutomu Hata told delegates that the convening of the conference "demonstrates the international community's continued support for the new government."

The last ICORC meeting, held at a working level in Paris in September, saw 119 million dollars in fresh commitments added to the 880 million dollars garnered at a previous ministerial conference on Cambodia held in Tokyo in June 1992.

While most of those funds were for short-term financial support, this week's meeting is expected to produce substantial new pledges to help Cambodia meet its mid- to long-term aid needs. Japanese sources estimate new pledges may reach 120 million dollars.

Japan, Cambodia's chief aid benefactor, will pledge some 9 billion yen in new grant assistance, sources said. Tokyo has already committed some 190 million dollars, thus fulfilling its June 1992 pledge of 150 million dollars to 200 million dollars over a three-year period ending this April.

But despite the inflow of aid, efforts to implement reconstruction programs continue to be undermined by the destabilizing activities of the Khmer Rouge guerrilla group.

Ranariddh said the international community can help resolve the Khmer Rouge problem by ensuring that all countries "scrupulously" and "instantly" respect Cambodia's sovereignty, independence, neutrality, and territorial integrity and inviolability.

Cambodian Government officials have repeatedly accused neighboring Thailand of allowing the Khmer Rouge to take sanctuary across the border.

Ranariddh also made reference in his speech to the "agonizing and menacing problem" of millions of land mines strewn over vast tracts of territory, including potentially productive farmland. He said removing them will take a long time and be costly.

The conference is to consider additional interim funding for the Cambodian Mine Action Center (CMAC), which has appealed for 10 million dollars annually for the next five years to remove mines. Mines kill or injure over 300 Cambodians a month, with the result being that Cambodia has the highest ratio of handicapped people in the world—one in every 236 people.

Donors Pledge Reconstruction Aid

OW1003085894 Tokyo KYODO in English 0835 GMT 10 Mar 94

[Text] Tokyo, March 10 KYODO—Donor countries and international organizations gathered in Tokyo on Thursday [10 March] readied their pledges of aid for Cambodia's reconstruction expected to total hundreds of millions of dollars.

U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher announced that 73 million dollars of fresh U.S. assistance will be provided to Cambodia over the next two years, while Japan was expected to offer 9 billion yen in new grant aid over a year.

Pledges made at the two-day meeting of the International Committee on the Reconstruction of Cambodia (ICORC), participated in by 32 countries, the European Union, and 12 international bodies, are scheduled to be tallied up for announcement on Friday.

At the outset of the meeting, Cambodian First Prime Minister Norodom Ranariddh conveyed an appeal from King Norodom Sihanouk for a modern-day "Marshall Plan" to help put the war-ravaged country back on its feet.

In a message sent from Beijing, where he has been undergoing medical treatment, Sihanouk said, "the gift of which my country has the greatest need, having suffered from so many years of turpitude and devastation, is none other than a new unconditional Marshall Plan gauged to specific needs."

Sihanouk's reference was to a multibillion-dollar plan drawn up by U.S. Secretary of State George Marshall in the late 1940s to rehabilitate the shattered economies of post-World War II European nations.

Christopher, meanwhile, urged continued global attention to the problems faced by Cambodia and called for sustained assistance to help it recover from the disasters of its past, as well as "to help Cambodians take charge of their future."

"Events in Cambodia no longer make front page news around the world," he said. "That is in many ways a happy sign, but it is not a reason to shift our attention. As Cambodia moves from crisis to normality it is vital that we stay engaged."

Ranariddh, who was accompanied by Second Prime Minister Hun Sen, told the delegates, "Cambodia deserves your help because it helps itself." He said that the government, in the five months since its formation in the wake of last May's U.N.-supervised general election, has accomplished a great deal in spite of the meager resources at its disposal.

Heeding international recommendations, Ranariddh said Cambodia has implemented administrative reforms, put its finances in order, stabilized the local currency and worked out a satisfactory budget.

Sihanouk's message enumerated six priority areas for external assistance—basic human needs in terms of sufficient access by the population to food and medical care, agricultural and rural development, infrastructure repair, environmental protection, education and technical training, and industrialization. He placed the utmost importance on improving conditions in rural communities, where over 80 percent of all Cambodians eke out a living, most of them "lacking even a roof over their head, sufficient resources, work or the prospect of finding any."

Gordon Bilney, Australian minister for development cooperation, echoed that "while macroeconomic assistance to restructure the economy remains a vital goal-...specific action to alleviate poverty...must remain a high priority."

The first ICORC meeting, held at a working-level in Paris last September, saw 119 million dollars in fresh commitments added to the 880 million dollars garnered at a previous ministerial conference on Cambodia held in Tokyo in June 1992. While most of those funds were for short-term financial support, the present ICORC meeting is focused on Cambodia's mid- to long-term aid requirements.

Economy and Finance Minister Sam Rangsi detailed those requirements and expressed confidence that with the support of the donor community his government "can extend the 'East Asian miracle to Cambodia'."

He took the occasion to unveil Cambodia's new liberalized investment law, which he said will not discriminate between Cambodian and foreign nationals, will guarantee remittance of foreign currencies and will offer various clear incentives.

Delegates from the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) praised the Cambodian Government for policies that have brought rapid economic growth, slashed inflation and turned about the fiscal deficit. But they warned that the macroeconomic situation remains fragile, with the country still highly dependent on external financing and suffering from a limited foreign exchange earning capacity.

The international financial organizations urged Cambodia to provide a vision of where the economy is headed, continue moving toward a market economy, strengthen the role of the private sector, work on rectifying the fiscal deficit and develop the skills of the country's work force.

Australia To Fund Mine Clearing

BK1003100294 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0500 GMT 10 Mar 94

[Text] Australia has told the Tokyo conference it is to provide an extra $700,000 [Australian dollars] to clear land mines in Cambodia, bringing its total allocation for demining in the financial year ending next June to about $1.4 million.

The allocation was announced by Australia development cooperation minister, Gordon Bilney, who expressed concern that new mines were being laid by both goverment forces and the Khmer Rouge. He said mines were being laid without adequate recording of their locations.

Mr. Bilney said land mines threaten food production because they prevented about 30 percent of farmland from being used.

Structural Reform 'Priority' of G-7 Job Summit

OW0803091394 Tokyo KYODO in English 0737 GMT 8 Mar 94

[Text] Tokyo, March 8 KYODO—The seven leading industrialized countries will place top priority on structural reforms to promote employment during the jobs summit in Detroit next week, government sources said Tuesday [8 March].

The Group of Seven (G-7) nations apparently will adopt the chairman's draft statement noting that international trade will help boost employment, baring in mind the relation between trade surpluses and unemployment.

The statement, to be released after the two-day summit, will avoid singling out individual nations for criticism. But Japan may be the exception if the nation leaves its huge trade surplus untouched, the sources said.

The economic ministers of the G-7 countries will participate in the jobs summit, to be held March 14 and 15. Labor Minister Chikara Sakaguchi will represent Japan.

According to the sources, these are the main points of the chairman's statement:

—Major industrial nations have been battling against unemployment.
—The unemployment rate has been rising in Europe and Japan, whose rate is the smallest among the G-7 nations.
—Each nation needs to provide equal opportunities to all workers, particularly those in the low-skill sector.
—Structural reforms will only be effective when they are supplemented and supported by appropriate macroeconomic policies.
—International trade is essential to boost wealth, employment and wages.
—The development of new technology regarding data processing, has the potential to increase the wealth of participating nations.

Tokyo To Sponsor International Forum on Security

OW0903075094 Tokyo KYODO in English 0723 GMT 9 Mar 94

[Text] Tokyo, March 9 KYODO—Japan will sponsor an international forum on security on March 15 and 16 in Tokyo to discuss cooperation on security in the Asia-Pacific region, the Foreign Ministry said Wednesday [9 March].

Security experts from 13 nations will attend the two-day session.

Among them will be South Korea, China, Vietnam, Thailand, the United States and Russia, the ministry said.

Participants will also discuss various problems in Northeast and Southeast Asia and Japan-U.S. relations, it said.

Brunei Agrees to ASEAN Invitation for Burma

BK0903023894 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 9 Mar 94 p 6

[Text] Brunei has confirmed that it is in favour of inviting Burma to an annual meeting of foreign ministers of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations in Bangkok in July, Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri said yesterday.

Brunei believes the time is "appropriate" to invite Burma, Squadron Leader Prasong quoted Brunei Foreign Permanent Secretary Lim Jok Seng as saying.

Dato Lim conveyed the message from his foreign minister, Prince Mohamed Bolkiah, to Sqn Ldr [Squadron Leader] Prasong during a, 30-minute meeting at the Foreign Ministry yesterday Dato Lim is in Bangkok to attend a meeting of ASEAN senior officials, who on Monday agreed in principle to invite Burma to their foreign ministers' annual conference.

With Brunei's endorsement, Thailand's attempt to bring Burma out of isolation has won the support of all ASEAN partners, officials noted.

But Sqn Ldr Prasong acknowledged that ASEAN member states remain undecided as to whether to invite Rangoon as guest of the grouping, or to let Thailand issue the invitation as host country.

A Foreign Ministry official pointed out that Burma should be invited as Thailand's guest with the endorsement of other ASEAN members.

The Foreign Minister reiterated that the invitation would strengthen security in the region and encourage Burma to bring about political and economic reforms.

Meanwhile, a senior member of the military junta in Rangoon has met opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi Voice of America reported yesterday.

THE NEW YORK TIMES quoted Intelligence chief Lt-Gen Khin Nyunt of the State Law and Order Restoration Council as saying that the meeting "produced nothing useful," VOA said in a report monitored.

Openness Toward Newly Liberalized Nations Urged

BK0903080294 Quezon City Radio Filipinas in English 0230 GMT 9 Mar 94

[Text] The Philippines has asked the Association of Southeast Nations, or ASEAN, to adopt a more open attitude toward newly liberalized countries in the region. These countries are Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar [Burma], and Vietnam. The call was made by the Philippine delegation to the special meeting of the ASEAN senior officials held recently in Bangkok.

Delegation head Foreign Affairs Undersecretary Rodolfo Severino called on ASEAN to eventually accept these newly industrialized [as heard] countries into the association. He said the inclusion of these four countries in ASEAN could prevent future conflicts and promote political stability and economic progress.

Japan

MITI Official Views Chip Trade Talks Plans

OW1003091794 Tokyo KYODO in English 0859 GMT 10 Mar 94

[Text] Tokyo, March 10 KYODO—Japan and the United States will hold two days of regular talks on semiconductor trade in Hawaii in mid-March, a Japanese trade official said Thursday [10 March]. The March 22-23 talks will follow a meeting from March 16 that will focus on calculating the foreign share in the Japanese semiconductor market for the October-December quarter last year, said an official at the Ministry of International Trade and Industry.

Under a 1991 trade pact, Japan and the United States agreed to a 20 percent goal for foreign market share by the end of 1992. In the final quarter of 1992, the foreign market share exceeded the goal, reaching 20.2 percent under a U.S. formula.

According to the U.S. formula, the foreign share since has been in a downward trend, standing at 18.1 percent for the July-September quarter last year. Under a separate Japanese accounting method, which includes chips manufactured in Japan by foreign companies for their own use, the foreign share had risen above the 20 percent level for three successive quarters from the final quarter of 1992, but fell to 19.7 percent in the July-September quarter last year.

U.S. Trade Representative Mickey Kantor has said he is concerned about the decline and insisted that Tokyo is not abiding by the bilateral trade agreement. It is viewed by the United States as a commitment but as a nonbinding target by Japan.

Airline Leader Urges Change in U.S. Accord

OW1003083894 Tokyo KYODO in English 0803 GMT 10 Mar 94

[Text] Tokyo, March 10 KYODO—Japan's airline industry leader sought correction Thursday [10 March] in what he views as "an inequality" in the Japan-U.S. aviation accord. Susumu Yamaji, chairman of Japan Airlines Co. (JAL), told a luncheon meeting sponsored by the Foreign Correspondents Club of Japan, "we want a U.S.-Japan agreement which reflects today's conditions instead of the position of 40 years ago."

International aviation should be governed by a bilateral agreement based on "a give-and-take principle," he said. But the current accord between Tokyo and Washington, a product of the postwar period, was influenced by "the circumstances of the time when the power of the United States was overwhelming," he said.

Yamaji, also chairman of the International Air Transport Association (IATA) Executive Committee, has led the Japanese team in civil aviation talks with the U.S.

Yamaji said Japanese airlines, for example, have only two weekly "beyond rights" flights from Tokyo to Brazil via Los Angeles, while U.S. airlines have 149 weekly flights beyond Japan to countries in North and South Asia and Australia.

He also said that under the pact, Japan is forced to take a "rather peculiar" route to Mexico via Vancouver, rather than the more cost-effective route via Los Angeles.

"U.S. airlines are exploiting the full benefits of their very advantageous position stemming from the 40-year-old accord," he said.

Yamaji said U.S. airlines, bent on fully employing their "outdated" rights, are attempting to further grab their share and control of global markets, advocating free competition under the name of "open skies." But the attitude has angered more and more countries, prompting France and Thailand to end their agreements with the U.S., and Germany once came close to doing so, he said.

"When you talk about liberalization, you have to prepare rules that offer fair chances to all players," Yamaji said. He said Japan is not considering forming an alliance with other Asian countries that have disputes with the U.S. in future talks with Washington.

On a reported plan by JAL to raise its air fares in first- and business-class seats on overseas routes, Yamaji said it reflects "business judgment" made by IATA.

Any airline belonging to the 225-airline IATA must receive its approval for a fare hike. The plan is then accepted by the transport authorities of each country.

JAL's latest move came at a time when global airlines are aiming to trim fares in order to survive the intensified race.

JAL has decided to slash fares for economy class, Yamaji said. JAL, which suffered around 50 billion in pretax losses in the latest accounting year, is expected to incur a similar loss in the current year that ends in March.

Pioneer, U.S. Lab To Work on Digital CATV

OW1003081894 Tokyo KYODO in English 0723 GMT 10 Mar 94

[Text] Tokyo, March 10 KYODO—Pioneer Electronic Corp. said Thursday [10 March] it has agreed with Cable Television Laboratories Inc. (Cablelabs) of the United States to develop digital signal transmission technology for North American cable television systems. The agreement calls for the two parties to join hands in developing and standardizing a technique called 16VSB—vestigal sideband—which is suitable for high volume data transmission, the leading audiovisual equipment maker said in a press release.

Digital signal transmission technology is viewed as a key element that will play a part in the next-generation digital CATV network, it said.

Under the agreement, Pioneer will be responsible for development of transmission technology and special semiconductors, and Cablelabs will provide technical facilities and testing assistance, the company said. Pioneer said it expects results by the spring of 1995.

Cablelabs is a research and development consortium of Cable Television System Operators representing more than 85 percent of cable subscribers in the U.S.

The U.S. cable television industry is moving forward in building a next-generation CATV system for the so-called "Information Superhighway" championed by the administration of President Bill Clinton.

Plaintiffs File Appeal Over U.S. Base Flights

OW0903130494 Tokyo KYODO in English 1240 GMT 9 Mar 94

[Text] Naha, March 9 KYODO—A group of 907 plaintiffs filed an appeal against the state with the Fukuoka High Court on Wednesday [9 March], protesting a lower court's rejection of their plea to suspend U.S. military flights from the Kadena Air Base in Okinawa Prefecture due to noise pollution. Their lawyers said their clients have also criticized the ruling of the Okinawa branch of the Naha District Court for failing to reflect an appropriate amount of compensation.

On February 24, the branch court ordered the state to pay a total of 807.45 million yen to 768 residents around the U.S. Kadena Air Base in compensation for noise pollution.

The court rejected the suit by the other 139 plaintiffs on the grounds that they did not suffer the same level of inconvenience. The ruling rejected demands for a halt to night flights at the base in line with a Supreme Court decision in February last year involving Yokota Air Base in Tokyo and Atsugi Air Base in Kanagawa Prefecture.

The group of 907 residents demanded a halt to flights to and from the Kadena base between 7 P.M. and 7 A.M., 1.15 million yen each in damages for noise-related suffering and compensation for future annoyance until a night flight ban is imposed.

Kadena Air Base is under the control of the 18th Tactical Fighter Wing and is considered a key base of the U.S. Air Force in East Asia.

U.S. Secretary of State Continues Visit

Holds Meeting With Hata

OW1003111794 Tokyo KYODO in English 1058 GMT 10 Mar 94

[Text] Tokyo, March 10 KYODO—U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher asked Thursday [10 March] for Japan's support if the issue of North Korea's suspected nuclear development program is brought to the U.N. Security Council for discussion, Japanese Foreign Ministry officials said. Christopher made the call in talks with Foreign Minister Tsutomu Hata in reference to North Korea's suspected nuclear development program and ongoing inspections of its seven declared nuclear facilities, the officials said.

Hata told Christopher that Japan will fulfill its role as a member of the United Nations in such a case, and gave high marks to Washington's "tenacious" negotiations with Pyongyang, they said. The two men agreed in the meantime to continue cooperation to solve problems regarding North Korea's alleged nuclear weapons program, the officials said.

North Korea announced a year ago that it would withdraw from the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty (NPT) but suspended the decision after negotiations with the United States.

Late last month, Pyongyang said it will allow inspections by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) of seven of its nuclear facilities and the IAEA inspectors entered Pyongyang on March 1.

Washington and Pyongyang are scheduled to hold a third round of high-level talks beginning March 21 in Geneva on the condition that North Korea comply with a four-point accord that includes successful completion of the nuclear inspections.

Christopher arrived in Tokyo from Australia on Wednesday on the second leg of a three-nation tour which also takes him to China on Friday.

The secretary of state urged Japanese support in pushing China's leadership to improve its human rights record, the officials said. Christopher told Hata that the U.S. considers improvement in China's human rights record as an important condition to extend most-favored-nation (MFN) trade status to Beijing.

Hata noted that Japan has been urging China to improve its human rights record.

Christopher and Hata both expressed concern over the recent emergence of ultranationalists in Russia, the officials said.

Christopher said he does not think a spy scandal involving a high-ranking CIA official will affect U.S.-Russian ties in the long term, they said. He also said Washington welcomes Moscow's initiative in the conflicts in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

On Friday, Christopher and Undersecretary of Defense Frank Wisner will hold "two-plus-two" security talks with Hata and Defense Agency chief Kazuo Aichi.

Christopher is scheduled to deliver a speech before Japanese business leaders later the same day.

Discusses DPRK Nuclear Issue

OW1003131694 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 1013 GMT 10 Mar 94

[Announcer-read report; from the "NHK News 7" program]

[Text] U.S. Secretary of States Christopher met separately with Prime Minister Hosokawa and Foreign Minister Hata this afternoon. During the meetings, he said the United States will make a decision on the resumption of the Japan-U.S. economic trade talks which were broken off at the recent Japan-U.S. summit after examining a package of measures to open the Japanese market which Japan plans to map out during this month.

At his meeting with Prime Minister Hosokawa, Secretary of State Christopher said: While the United States has been working on the reduction of its federal budget deficit, Japan has yet to fulfill its responsibility for cutting its trade surplus with the United States and expanding imports. What is important is the visible trade result. I hope that Japan will take measures in wide areas.

The U.S. secretary of state also indicated that the United States will make a decision on whether to resume the Japan-U.S. economic framework talks, which remain suspended, after examining the package of measures to open the Japanese market which Japan plans to map out during this month. In response, Prime Minister Hosokawa said: We are fully aware that Japanese and U.S. economies are in a difficult situation. The government is doing all in its power to map out a package of measures to open the Japanese market to reduce Japan's trade surplus with the United States.

At the meeting prior to the Hosokawa-Christopher meeting, Foreign Minister Hata expressed a sense of crisis in the Japan-U.S. relations. Foreign Minister Hata and Secretary of State Christopher agreed on the following point: The Japan-U.S. relationship is an allied relationship based on the security arrangements, and both Japan and the United States have common responsibility for the world prosperity. The two countries should seek to resolve issues pending between them through dialogue in order not to heighten tension between them in the economic area.

During the meeting between Foreign Minister Hata and Secretary of State Christopher, the issue of North Korea's suspected nuclear development was raised. Foreign Minister Hata said Japan highly appraises tenacious effort by the United States to hold talks with North Korea. Japan would fulfill its responsibility as a UN member if talks on nuclear inspections end in failure. In this way, the foreign minister indicated that Japan would cooperate with economic sanctions to be imposed by the UN Security Council.

Urges Market-Opening Package

OW1003122694 Tokyo KYODO in English 1157 GMT 10 Mar 94

[Text] Tokyo, March 10 KYODO—U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher urged Japan on Thursday to come out with a tangible and comprehensive market-opening package by the end of the month, Foreign Ministry officials said. Christopher made the call in a meeting with Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa at his official residence, saying Japan has not yet produced results in correcting its trade imbalance or boosting imports.

Hosokawa told Christopher the Japanese Government is working on a market-opening package that is "substantially meaningful," the officials said.

Earlier in the day, Christopher met with Foreign Minister Tsutomu Hata and agreed the United States and Japan should make efforts to prevent existing tension from escalating and try to solve problems through negotiations, they said.

Christopher told the prime minister that the U.S. is trying to reduce its fiscal deficit and to strengthen its competitiveness.

Christopher noted the need to improve bilateral economic relations and remove the current negative elements, the officials said.

The prime minister told Christopher that he is devoting great energy into pushing for "changes" in Japan because they are important for consumers and the public. Hosokawa explained that although other countries may think the speed of change is slow, it is not easy to transform systems that have long existed in Japan, they said.

Christopher expressed respect toward Hosokawa's efforts, including political reform, they said.

Christopher told Hosokawa that the U.S. and Japan have good relations in the political and security fields, noting the planned "two-plus-two" security talks on Friday and the International Conference on Aid to Cambodia which began in Tokyo in a two-day session. Christopher and Hata, both of whom attended the opening day session of the Cambodia aid conference, are scheduled to meet again Friday in a security forum session to be joined by Defense Agency Director General Kazuo Aichi and U.S. Undersecretary of Defense Frank Wisner.

During the 45-minute meeting with the prime minister, Christopher conveyed President Bill Clinton's message to Hosokawa, the officials said. In the message, Clinton gave high marks to the February summit and a breakfast meeting with Hosokawa in Washington and noted that he respects the prime minister very much as a best friend, they said.

On the international front, Christopher urged Hosokawa to convey the U.S. stance to place importance on China's human rights record in considering extension of its the most-favored-nation (MFN) trade status when Hosokawa visits China from March 19 to 21, the officials said.

Christopher, who will visit Beijing on Friday after wrapping up the three-day trip to Japan, said if no improvement in China's human rights record is seen and Washington does not extend MFN status, the entire economic system in Asia would be negatively affected. Hosokawa replied that he will bear that in mind when he visits China, officials said.

Earlier, Christopher held two-hour talks with Foreign Minister Hata.

Hata told Christopher tension exists over economic problems, and that although it is unlikely to negatively influence bilateral ties immediately, the two countries should not underestimate it, they said.

Hata was also quoted as saying it is important that Japan and the U.S. keep their ties in good form because Asia, Europe and the rest of the world are watching.

Ties between Tokyo and Washington turned sour last month when Hosokawa and Clinton announced the collapse of the trade framework negotiations aimed at redressing Japan's huge trade surplus with the United States. The two sides have since been in a cooling-off period.

Japanese figures show Japan registered a third straight rise in its trade surplus with the U.S. in 1993, gaining 15.2 percent to 50.19 billion dollars, the third-largest amount. U.S. figures put the U.S. trade deficit with Japan in 1993 at a record 59.3 billion dollar.

Christopher told Hata that Washington wants to closely watch what Tokyo hammers out as a market-opening package and then decide on what to do with the framework talks, the officials said.

Christopher, who arrived in Japan late Wednesday night for a three-day visit to Japan, called for "tangible" results and said the U.S. does not want "ambiguities" or just procedures, they said.

The officials said Hata and Christopher did not discuss specific economic problems. They did not take up the U.S. Government's reinstatement last week of a trade law known as Super 301, which gives the administration power to impose sanctions against countries it determines guilty of unfair trade practices, they said.

Japanese officials believe the action is aimed at pressing Japan into opening its markets and reducing its trade surplus.

Christopher and Hata agreed Japan and the U.S. have commitments to their alliance relations based on a bilateral security pact and that both countries have joint responsibilities for maintaining peace and prosperity throughout the world, they said.

Christopher expressed worries about possible deterioration of the relationship of trust between Japan and the U.S., noting voices in the U.S. that Tokyo is not sufficiently making efforts to reduce its current account surplus or to boost imports while the U.S. is fulfilling its responsibilities to reduce its fiscal deficit and strengthen competitiveness, the officials said.

The two men agreed that Tokyo and Washington should both try to offer ideas to seek a solution, they said.

Hata told Christopher that Japan is making "voluntary" efforts and is compiling a package of market-opening measures, such as deregulation and import-promotion steps. He added Japan is making such efforts not only for the sake of relations with other countries but for the improvement of its own people's lives.

Earlier in the day, Christopher told reporters that Japan, in the course of its reforms, could benefit from advice from the U.S.

"I think there is a change and reform taking place in Japan and, if they'll permit an outsider to be heard, it may be helpful to express our views about the importance of the relationship we have with Japan," Christopher said. He mentioned security, diplomacy and economy as areas in which the bilateral relationship has particular importance.

Appeals for 'Tangible Results'

OW1003101694 Tokyo KYODO in English 0954 GMT 10 Mar 94

[Text] Tokyo, March 10 KYODO—Secretary of State Warren Christopher and Foreign Minister Tsutomu Hata agreed Thursday [10 March] that the United States and Japan should make efforts to prevent existing tension from escalating and try to solve problems through negotiations, Foreign Ministry officials said.

During a two-hour meeting at the Foreign Ministry, Hata told Christopher that there is "tension" between Japan and the U.S. over economic problems.

Christopher was quoted as saying the economic row should not affect security and political relations between the two nations, the officials said.

The secretary of state told Hata the U.S. wants to watch closely what the Japanese Government will hammer out as a market-opening package and then decide on what to do with the collapsed bilateral "framework" talks.

The officials said Hata and Christopher did not discuss specific economic problems.

They did not take up the U.S. Government's reinstatement last week of a trade law known as Super 301, which gives the administration power to impose sanctions against countries it determines guilty of unfair trade practices, they said.

Japanese officials believe the action is aimed at pressing Japan into opening its markets and reducing its trade surplus.

Hata told Christopher the "tension" between Tokyo and Washington is unlikely to immediately have a bad influence on the entire bilateral relationship. But the foreign minister noted that the two nations should not underestimate the tension, the officials said.

He was quoted as saying it is important to keep Japan-U.S. ties in good form from a global point of view because Asia, Europe and the rest of the world are keeping their eyes on the two.

The Tokyo-Washington ties took a turn for the worse last month when Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa and President Bill Clinton announced the collapse of trade framework negotiations aimed at redressing Japan's huge trade surplus with the U.S. which totaled some 60 billion dollars last year according to U.S. figures.

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"I think there is a change and reform taking place in Japan and, if they'll permit an outsider to be heard, it may be helpful to express our views about the importance of the relationship we have with Japan," Christopher said. He mentioned security, diplomacy and economy as areas in which the bilateral relationship has particular importance.

Christopher cited "the need to strengthen our economic relationship so that there is a balance in our overall relationship."

He denied that he is trying to take his "message" directly to the Japanese people because the U.S. has failed to get it through to them via talks with the Japanese Government. "I think it's always desirable to communicate directly, when one can, to the people of a country," he said, adding that the U.S. message "can be strengthened if we convey it ourselves, not because it's been misrepresented."

The coalition government of Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa has undertaken political reform and financial deregulation since coming to office last August.

Christopher, who leaves Japan on Friday after a three-day stay, made the comments after a meeting with Cambodian Co-Premiers Prince Norodom Ranariddh and Hun Sen, who are in Tokyo for a conference on aid to Cambodia.

Talks With Cambodia's Ranariddh

OW1003060994 Tokyo KYODO in English 0539 GMT 10 Mar 94

[Text] Tokyo, March 10 KYODO—Cambodian First Prime Minister Norodom Ranariddh said Thursday [10 March] the government remains open to a dialogue with the Khmer Rouge, but not "negotiations" that would imply further concessions to the guerri"a group.

"Our doors are still open," Ranariddh told reporters after he and Second Prime Minister Hun Sen held talks with U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher. "No negotiations, but we are ready to talk," Ranariddh said, adding that the Khmer Rouge "have to be more reasonable."

Ranariddh and Hun Sen arrived in Tokyo on Wednesday to attend a two-day international conference on aid to Cambodia which began Thursday. In his address to the conference, Ranariddh urged the international community "to help...solve the question of the Khmer Rouge as best it can" by seeing to it that the provisions of the October 1991 Paris peace agreements on Cambodia are strictly implemented.

In a barb clearly aimed at neighboring Thailand, which has been repeatedly accused by the Cambodian Government of allowing the Khmer Rouge sanctuary across the border, Ranariddh urged all signatories of the Paris agreements to fully respect them.

Ranariddh's father King Norodom Sihanouk, in a message read out at the conference, held out an olive branch to the Khmer Rouge, saying that "the door remains open to the most moderate elements and I do not despair of their future integration, there being an irresistible spirit towards total national reconciliation."

Christopher warned in his address that considering that the Khmer Rouge has not yet disarmed, "the future of democracy in Cambodia can hardly be taken for granted."

Cambodia's Hun Sen Asks for SDF Expertise

OW1003091294 Tokyo KYODO in English 0849 GMT 10 Mar 94

[Text] Tokyo, March 10 KYODO—Cambodia's Second Premier Hun Sen told former Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe on Thursday [10 March] his country hopes to borrow expertise from Japan's Self-Defense Forces (SDF) to train retired Cambodian soldiers in technical skills. He urged Watanabe to use his political influence to help Cambodia get SDF assistance, Japanese officials said.

Watanabe, however, said it would be difficult to realize such a project as the Japanese Constitution allows SDF dispatch abroad only for United Nations peacekeeping operations.

Hun Sen suggested the experts could also be retired SDF personnel, the officials added.

Hun Sen and his co-premier Norodom Ranariddh, who are currently in Japan to attend an international conference on assistance for Cambodia's reconstruction, met Watanabe at a Tokyo hotel.

Official: DPRK May Possess Long-Range Missile

OW1003102794 Tokyo KYODO in English 1007 GMT 10 Mar 94

[Text] Tokyo, March 10 KYODO—Vice Defense Minister Shigeru Hatakeyama said Thursday [10 March] it is possible that North Korea has developed a long-range missile capable of hitting targets more than 2,000 kilometers away.

"North Korea has placed stress on its military. Looking at the facts that it has developed the Nodong-1 through upgrading Scud missiles and has improved its technologies, we cannot totally deny that it may produce a further upgraded one," he said.

Hatakeyama, speaking at a news conference, discussed a report by the authoritative JANE'S DEFENSE WEEKLY that North Korea is developing two new ballistic missiles, one of which is capable of landing anywhere in Japan. Pyongyang last year test-fired the Nodong-1 ballistic missile with an estimated range of 1,000 kilometers—capable of striking Seoul and western parts of Japan.

Hatakeyama, however, said the Defense Agency has not independently confirmed the JANE's report. According to JANE's, U.S. intelligence satellites have detected a new "missile simulator," a hardware mock-up of a missile, at the Sanum Dong research facility in North Korea.

The weekly said the new two-stage missile has been given the provisional designation Taepo Dong-2 (TD-2) by U.S. intelligence. The mock-up was 32 meters long, comprising an 18 by 2.4 meter diameter first stage and a 14 by 1.3 meter second stage rocket.

The TD-2's dimensions indicate the missile would have a range far greater than the 2,000 kilometers of the Taepo Dong-1 (TD-1), also under development by North Korea, the magazine said. Jane's said U.S. officials also believe the missile has a much improved targeting capability and is possibly able to achieve a range of 3,500 kilometers, putting it in striking distance of Guam.

French Trade Minister Comments on Super 301

OW1003113894 Tokyo KYODO in English 1109 GMT 10 Mar 94

[Text] Tokyo, March 10 KYODO—French Trade Minister Gerard Longuet on Thursday [10 March] criticized Washington's retaliatory trade policy against Japan. The global community regards Japan's huge trade surplus as "a problem" for the world, but resorting to steps like Super 301 is an "overreaction," Longuet said.

Longuet made the remarks in his meeting with his Japanese counterpart Hiroshi Kumagai.

France and other European countries are against trade policies accompanied by sanctions, Longuet said. "Such a step is unlikely to solve problems on a long-term basis."

Kumagai said Japan will not leave unattended the soured economic ties with the United States following the breakdown of trade "framework" talks in February.

Longuet called for global economic cooperation with Japan in such fields as automobiles, aircraft and energy. He also proposed Japan and other Asian countries step up cooperation for industrial development.

Kumagai shared the view with the French trade minister, who arrived Tuesday for a visit lasting through Sunday.

'Harshly' Criticizes U.S. Policy

OW1003093294 Tokyo KYODO in English 0909 GMT 10 Mar 94

[Text] Tokyo, March 10 KYODO—French Trade and Industry Minister Gerard Longuet on Thursday [10 March] harshly criticized Washington's reinstatement of the Super 301 trade law as an "unjustified attack" on Japan.

In an address to the Japanese-French Club, an official bilateral discussion forum, Longuet also called for more Japanese investment in France.

"The U.S. has used Japan's structural trade surplus as a pretext for launching unjustified attacks against Japan and making unilateral decisions," Longuet said, citing the reinstatement of Super 301, which paves the way for trade sanctions. France condemns such actions, he said.

The trade law gives the United States broad powers to impose sanctions against countries it judges to have unfair trade practices. Its reinstatement is widely seen as a move to pressure Japan to reduce its more than 60 billion dollar trade surplus with the U.S.

Referring to the U.S. Government's role in clinching a 6 billion dollar private-sector contract from Saudi Arabian Airlines, Longuet said Washington's trade tactics run counter to the philosophy of free trade.

A European consortium, Airbus Industrie, also submitted a bid for the aircraft deal, which is expected to save the near-bankrupt U.S. aircraft industry.

Washington is exploiting its "almost exclusive political, military and monetary trump cards" to safeguard commercial interests, Longuet said. This is "not a very good solution."

Instead Japan's overall trade surplus should be addressed on a multilateral basis, Longuet said.

Citing improved foreign access to public works bidding, Longuet said Japan is "going in the right direction" with its efforts to deregulate the economy.

Paris is satisfied with Tokyo's recent 15 billion yen stimulus package, he said. He said he hoped that the liberalization of Japan's economy will lead to closer bilateral economic ties, and urged more bilateral investment and joint ventures.

While France represents some 20 percent of the European economy, only 7 percent of Japanese investment in Europe goes to France, he said.

Longuet urged French companies to overcome their "lack of courage" and set up business in Japan. Japanese investments in France are 10 times higher than French investments in Japan.

He arrived in Tokyo on Wednesday for talks with Japanese Government and business leaders and to attend an international conference on assistance to Cambodia.

Hosokawa Hopes for Pre-Summit Visit to France

OW1003120594 Tokyo KYODO in English 1044 GMT 10 Mar 94

[Text] Tokyo, March 10 KYODO—Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa on Thursday [10 March] expressed hope to visit France before this year's summit of the Group of Seven (G-7) major industrialized nations set for Naples in July, a Foreign Ministry official said. Hosokawa made the remark in a meeting with Gerard Longuet, the French trade and industry minister, at the prime minister's official residence Thursday [10 March].

Longuet invited Hosokawa to France as early as possible, the official said. Hosokawa did not make clear when he wants to visit France, the official said.

Longuet was quoted as telling Hosokawa that France and Japan can cooperate in helping reconstruct Cambodia from years of civil strife and contribute to the international community together.

He also lauded Hosokawa's courage to institute national reforms, including the recently achieved political reform, the official said.

Longuet arrived in Tokyo on Wednesday for talks with Japanese Government and business leaders and to attend an international conference on assistance to Cambodia, which opened its two-day session at a Tokyo hotel Thursday.

Tokyo To Send Labor Minister to G-7 Job Summit

OW1003074594 Tokyo KYODO in English 0714 GMT 10 Mar 94

[Text] Tokyo, March 9 KYODO—Japan will send only the labor minister from among cabinet members to the Group of Seven (G-7) "Jobs Summit" in Detroit on May 14-15, a top government spokesman said Thursday [10 March].

Chief Cabinet Secretary Masayoshi Takemura told reporters the government has decided to send only Labor Minister Chikara Sakaguchi to the Detroit meeting as other ministers invited to the meeting are unable to go because of Diet business. "There is a perception that deliberation on the (fiscal 1994) budget is more important, so the government made a decision to have only the labor minister attend," Takemura said.

U.S. President Bill Clinton has invited officials of the other G-7 major industrial countries—Japan, Germany, Britain, France, Italy and Canada—to the meeting to discuss ways to create new jobs.

From Japan, Finance Minister Hirohisa Fujii, International Trade and Industry Minister Hiroshi Kumagai and Economic Planning Agency Director General Manae Kubota were also invited to the meeting.

Police Arrest 106 Suspected Illegal Chinese

OW1003010194 Tokyo KYODO in English 0048 GMT 10 Mar 94

[Text] Wakayama, March 10 KYODO—Police rounded up a group of 106 Chinese early Thursday [10 March] in Susami, Wakayama Prefecture, on suspicion of illegally entering Japan.

The Chinese had rented about 10 cars after landing in the coastal town aboard several small boats, and were apprehended while making their way to Osaka and Nagoya, police said.

Police suspect there is a syndicate organization which plotted the entry attempt.

In late November, a group of nearly 100 Chinese sneaked into the country through a tiny port some 10 kilometers northwest of Susami.

Syndicate Organization Suspected

OW1003080094 Tokyo KYODO in English 0721 GMT 10 Mar 94

[Text] Wakayama, March 10 KYODO—Police on Thursday [10 March] arrested a group of 91 Chinese for allegedly trying to sneak into Japan through a coastal town in Wakayama Prefecture and 16 other Chinese on suspicion of harboring the illegal immigrants.

Police caught the Chinese group in a sweep after they landed in Susami aboard several small boats early Thursday and tried to make their way to Osaka and Nagoya in 13 cars rented by the others, they said. The 16 Chinese accomplices had their passports, police said.

The 91 illegal immigrants, including 12 women, reportedly told police that some of them had come from China while others came from Taiwan, Hong Kong and Singapore.

Police suspect that a syndicate organization is behind the massive human smuggling scheme. Police had been tipped off by local residents who reported seeing the cars with Osaka and Nagoya plates.

There were two similar incidents of illegal entry by Chinese reported in the same vicinity in late 1993. Nearly 100 Chinese attempted to enter the country in November through a tiny port some 10 kilometers northwest of Susami but were detained by police.

Meanwhile, police in Nagoya arrested Karmann Tang, 26, from Hong Kong, on suspicion of preparing to help the illegal immigrants. Tang had 24 Shinkansen bullet trains tickets from Nagoya to Tokyo, police said.

He was quoted as saying that he was to meet the Chinese in Nagoya and send them to Tokyo and that his company had gone to "a remote beach" to pick up the immigrants.

Two men who appeared to be Chinese rented two trucks at a shop in Nagoya on Monday and police are investigating their connection with the case, they said.

Of the 91 Chinese who tried to enter Japan, the oldest is a 39-year-old man and the youngest a 16-year-old girl, they said. The other 16 people arrested in Wakayama are between 22 and 36 years old, and had passports from Singapore or Hong Kong, they said.

Honda Plans To Open Showroom in Beijing in Apr

OW0903080094 Tokyo KYODO in English 0720 GMT 9 Mar 94

[Text] Tokyo, March 9 KYODO—Honda Motor Co. said Wednesday [9 March] it will open a showroom in Beijing on April 6 to promote automobile sales in China. The showroom, the first such facility to be opened in Beijing by a Japanese automaker, will exhibit Legend and Accord models, Honda said.

At the same time, Honda's Hong Kong-based sales subsidiary, Honda Motor (China) Co., will launch active automobile-marketing efforts in China, company officials said. The wholly owned subsidiary was established in February 1993 to market and service Honda motorcycles, for which Chinese demand is increasing, the officials said.

Honda so far has sold automobiles in China through trading companies. The officials said Honda decided to have the subsidiary promote direct automobile marketing in China after Honda's auto exports to the country hit a record 12,200 vehicles last year.

Domestic Rice Prices 'Almost' Stop Rising

OW0903093494 Tokyo KYODO in English 0820 GMT 9 Mar 94

[Text] Tokyo, March 9 KYODO—Domestic rice prices in the free market almost stopped rising Wednesday [9 March] after a period of increases following a government decision to distribute state-controlled rice blended with foreign rice, a private rice market survey agency said.

The rice databank said 60 kilograms of "Koshihikari" rice produced in Niigata Prefecture were traded at between 53,200 yen and 53,600 yen in Tokyo and Osaka free markets, only 300 yen higher than a week before.

Although the price of "Kirara 397" in Hokkaido is still rising, rises in other brands have been shrinking, the Tokyo-based agency said.

A free rice market official in Osaka said most consumers who persist in eating domestic rice seemed to have purchased what they want prior to the distribution of government-controlled rice, which will be blended with foreign rice to counter the domestic crop shortfall in 1993.

Government To Supply 30,000 Tons More of Rice

OW1003145394 Tokyo KYODO in English 1410 GMT 10 Mar 94

[Text] Tokyo, March 10 KYODO—The Food Agency said Thursday [10 March] an additional 30,000 tons of rice, harvested in Japan, will be supplied to the market between this month and June as an emergency measure to meet a shortage.

The 30,000 tons, equivalent to two days' national consumption, are part of the agency's prefectural branch stocks, agency officials said. However, it is up to prefectural governments to determine when to put the extra rice on the market, the officials said.

The shortage is caused partly by delayed imports of foreign rice, they said.

Trading Firms To Enter Rice Import Business

OW1003143694 Tokyo KYODO in English 1404 GMT 10 Mar 94

[Text] Tokyo, March 10 KYODO—Several trading firms have filed applications with the Food Agency to become government designated importing agents of rice, agency sources said Thursday[10 March]. It is the first time in almost a quarter of a century that new trading firms are trying to enter the rice import business, they said.

Under the designated agent system, established in 1957 when Japan was still importing rice, the government imports the grain but consigns the actual importing to approved trading companies. Japan later halted rice imports, and since there have been no new participants in the business, although the agency accepts applications every March. [sentence as received]

The number of designated trading firms has long remained at about 20, according to the sources.

With the government's decision last December to partially open the rice market next year, more traders are now eager to enter the business. The sources refrained from revealing the number and names of new trading firms that applied this year, but Okura and Co., a medium-ranked trading firm, said it has applied.

In order to become a designated agent, a trading firm must be a joint-stock corporation set up in Japan with capital of more than 100 million yen, and must have staff knowledgeable in rice trading, according to the agency. The agency will examine the applications and soon announce the results, the sources said.

Cold Weather 'Likely' To Affect Rice Crops

OW1003093994 Tokyo KYODO in English 0739 GMT 10 Mar 94

[Text] Tokyo, March 10 KYODO—Cold weather is likely to hit northern and eastern Japan from April to September, the months for growing rice, the Meteorological Agency said in its long-term forecast on Thursday [10 March].

Last year's cold weather brought about a poor harvest of rice crops throughout Japan, forcing the government to import rice from foreign producers as an emergency measure.

The northern and eastern regions of Japan are known as rice producing areas and officials said the expected cold weather for a second year in a row may possibly result in another poor harvest.

Review of National Defense Program 'Under Way'

OW1003024694 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 1000 GMT 9 Mar 94

[Text] At today's upper house plenary session, Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa reiterated that the national defense program, which defines the government's basic thinking on defense, needs to be reviewed. He said that such a review does not necessarily have to aim at cutting back on the defense forces.

Questioning the cabinet at this afternoon's session, Yutaka Takeyama of the Liberal Democratic Party [LDP] asked about the review of the national defense program being carried out. He noted that regional tensions remain high even after the end of the Cold War, as on the Korean peninsula, for example. He said that the current situation does not warrant a cutback in the Self-Defense Forces [SDF].

In reply, Prime Minister Hosokawa said that a review needs to be carried out of the concept of the program, including on the question of what Japan's basic defense capabilities should be. He stated that the review is currently under way in the government, and he insisted that the review is not necessarily aimed at reducing defense.

Yutaka Shimomura, a member of the Niin Club [upper house floor group], was the last speaker at the interpellation session today. He noted that the Hosokawa government retains high popularity, although it is perhaps not as popular as it once was. He said this means that Mr. Hosokawa should keep in mind that he must live up to the expectations of the people and that Mr. Hosokawa himself should come up with measures to make this possible.

In his response, Hosokawa stated that his government was born surrounded by the warm expectations of the people on reform, and that it continues to receive the support of the people as it proceeds with these reforms. He said he continues to be committed to the structural reforms of politics and the economy to give a new priority to working people.

Poll on Stimulus Measures, 1994 Budget, Tax Cuts

OW1003101994 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 1016 GMT 9 Mar 94

[Announcer-read report; from "NHK News 7" program]

[Text] NHK TV conducted a nationwide poll of 1,800 people aged 20 or over on 5, 6 March and got answers from 1,162 of them, or 64.9 percent. Results of the poll show that 84 percent of those surveyed said the government's economic stimulation measures were inadequate while only 4 percent said the measures were adequate. Asked what they expected the government to do to stimulate the economy, 32 percent said the government should expand public works projects, and 22 percent said taxes should be cut.

Asked about the first Hosokawa cabinet budget bill for fiscal 1944, 38 percent said it contained no characteristics of the Hosokawa cabinet because it had no economic stimulation plan and had been compiled by bureaucrats; while 22 percent it did have Hosokawa cabinet characteristics in that it planned to increase funding for public works projects to stimulate the economy and attached importance to consumers.

The government has decided to cut 6 trillion yen in taxes for one year in 1994, and to draw a conclusion within this year on post-1994 tax cuts and ways to secure financial resources to compensate for the shortfall incurred through tax cuts.

Asked about this plan, 44 percent said they thought highly of it, while 45 percent said they had no strong feelings for or against it. This showed a clear division of support for the tax-cut plan. Asked how they would use the extra income from the proposed tax cuts, 35 percent said they would spend more on consumer goods and tourism, while 32 percent said they would save the money.

Asked to comment on the national welfare tax that was scrapped soon after Prime Minister Hosokawa announced it, 54 percent opposed it, saying it was merely a replacement for the consumption tax, that it had been abruptly announced without full debate, and that the existing tax rate was already high. However, 29 percent expressed support, saying the new tax system was needed to support an aging society, to ensure financial resources to compensate for the planned tax cuts, and to improve the people's welfare.

Asked about the relationship between the level of social security and burden on society of senior citizens, 63 percent said the present social security system should be maintained even if the people's burden increased a little, while 20 percent said Japan should build itself a high-level social security system even if it greatly increased the tax burden on the people.

Asked about foreign rice imported after Japan suffered a shortage, 75 percent said they felt uneasy or very uneasy about eating it, while 23 percent said they felt quite happy about eating it.

Asked about government measures for farmers following its decision to partially open the Japanese rice market, 33 percent said the government should reduce protection for them and that the farmers should strengthen their management through free competition. Meanwhile 28 percent said government funds should be used to consolidate the foundation of agriculture, while 19 percent advocated the need for the government to subsidize losses in farmers' incomes.

Daiwa Securities Head To Lead Brokerage Group

OW0903032194 Tokyo KYODO in English 0257 GMT 9 Mar 94

[Text] Tokyo, March 9 KYODO—Daiwa Securities Co. Chairman Sadakane Doi was unofficially appointed Wednesday [9 March] as the next chairman of the Japan Securities Dealers Association, association officials said. The appointment of Doi, 65, to the post will be officially determined on July 1 at a meeting of directors.

Masaru Aratani, 69 , a former deputy president of the Tokyo Stock Exchange, is currently chairman of the association.

This is the first time since the revelation of the series of stock scandals in 1991 that an official from one of the "big four" brokerage houses will head the securities industry organization. Before the stock scandals involving loss compensation by major brokerages to big customers were revealed, the big four—Nomura Securities Co., Nikko Securities Co., Yamaichi Securities Co. as well as Daiwa—customarily took turns to supply the association's chief.

The outcry against the malpractice forced the big four to take a back seat, but the prolonged securities business slump and intensifying competition led many smaller brokerages to call for leadership from the big players, according to the officials.

The officials said the association will ask the Finance Ministry to end its restriction on the association personnel, set in the wake of the scandals. The ministry has advised the association that its head should not double in the post and as chief of his own company.

MITI Official on Regrouping of Cement Industry

OW1003120394 Tokyo KYODO in English 0933 GMT 10 Mar 94

[Text] Tokyo, March 10 KYODO—A top trade ministry official on Thursday [10 March] supported the accelerated regrouping of the cement industry in Japan. "Reorganization is an inevitable move facing the industry," said the official at the Ministry of International Trade and Industry, who declined to be named.

The comment followed a merger accord reached earlier in the day between Sumitomo Cement Co., the fourth biggest cement maker in Japan, and the eighth largest Osaka Cement Co., a move that will create the nation's second largest cement maker with a market share of about 18 percent.

The merger is expected to speed up the collapse of joint sales alliances formed among Japan's cement makers a decade ago. Of the five joint sales entities, two—one led by Onoda Cement Co. and the other by Ube Industries Ltd. and Chichibu Cement Co.—have already been dissolved. Another, led by Sumitomo Cement Co., will be disbanded by the end of this month.

The latest move by Sumitomo and Osaka would lead to extinction of one of the remaining two alliances—the one led by Nihon Cement Co.—because Osaka belongs to the group.

The alliances were established as an exception to the Antimonopoly Law under the MITI's strong administrative guidance as part of the cement industry's streamlining efforts. But the long recession in Japan has prompted business tie-ups beyond the framework of the original alliances.

Mergers could have more cost-cutting effects than under the alliances in which cement makers cooperated in such sales fields as unification of product brands and distribution systems, the MITI official said.

North Korea

ROK Official's Remarks on DPRK-U.S. Talks Decried

SK1003142494 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1305 GMT 10 Mar 94

[Text] According to Seoul Radio, on 9 March the South Korean puppet vice foreign minister made the absurd remark [tangchi anun chapsorirul chechyossumnida] that it is unclear if the third round of DPRK-U.S. talks will be held, mentioning the nuclear inspection and North-South dialogue.

As has already been reported, an International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] inspection team started inspections of us on 1 March, according to an agreement reached in DPRK-U.S. contacts in New York, and our country's organizations concerned are cooperating in the inspection team's activities.

Our position is to sincerely implement agreements regarding the IAEA inspections to guarantee the continuity of nuclear safeguards. Despite this fact, the puppet vice foreign minister said that the agency's inspections of us are unsatisfactory. His remarks are indeed extremely absurd and preposterous.

The puppet vice foreign minister also said that the South-North dialogue is not going smoothly. If we have to say something about this, we can say that the South is entirely responsible for this.

In the fifth working-level contact for an exchange of special envoys of the North and South, the South side, instead of expressing a clear attitude toward our side's principled demand before discussing practical problems, made preposterous sophistries that our demand creates obstacles and that it is unnecessary, thus creating obstacles to the discussions of problems.

The South side even deliberately raised an issue that has no relation to the discussions of the practical procedure and blemished the atmosphere of the talks, assuming an extremely provocative attitude.

The puppets are now saying that the North-South dialogue is not going smoothly, after they themselves created deliberate obstacles to working-level contacts. This is no more than avoiding their responsibility.

Never should it go unnoticed that the puppets keep insisting that progress in North-South dialogue is a precondition for the third round of DPRK-U.S. talks.

As we have already elucidated, in the agreement reached at the DPRK-U.S. contact in New York, it only mentions the resumption of working-level contact for the exchange of special envoys of the North and South as one of the steps of simultaneous action [tongsi haengdong chochi]. There is no indication about the realization of the exchange of special envoys.

The two sides of the DPRK and U.S. did not agree to the steps of simultaneous action with something as a precondition. The reason that the puppets are continuously babbling about some a precondition is ultimately to create an artificial barrier to put the brakes on the third round of DPRK-U.S. talks. This is nothing but a nasty scheme.

This is being vividly proven by the fact that the so-called puppet vice foreign minister confessed that consultations are being continuously carried out with allies, including the United States, on the issue of referring the North Korean nuclear issue to the UN Security Council.

Under the pretext of dialogue, the Kim Yong-sam puppet clique is pursuing behind the scenes the anti-Republic maneuver of isolation and suffocation under the international cooperative system [kukche kongjo cheje]. This will ultimately only lead to the road of pressing for destruction.

7, 8 March U.S.-ROK 'War' Exercises Reported

SK1003043194 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0418 GMT 10 Mar 94

[Text] Pyongyang, March 10 (KCNA)—The U.S. imperialists on March 8 brought two Okinawa-based KC-135 tanker planes to the sky above South Korea to stage a war exercise against the northern half of Korea, refueling in mid air at night some twenty fighter-bombers and assault planes including F-16s and A-10s belonging to the U.S. Air Force present in South Korea, according to military sources.

On the same day, some 10 large cargo planes based in the U.S. mainland and the Pacific airlifted a large aggression force and combat equipment to the U.S. Air Force bases in Osan and Kunsan. And an Okinawa-based RC-135 strategic reconnaissance plane, flying above the area of the military demarcation line, committed photographing and electronic reconnaissance on the strategic in- depth areas of the North.

On March 7, puppet army ground units ran amok in a war exercise in Yonchon and Paju counties, firing shells and large-calibre machinegun bullets.

Kim Yong-sam Government's Security Law Denounced

SK1003073994 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1150 GMT 9 Mar 94

[Commentary by Chong Pong-kil: "The National Security Law Must Be Abolished"]

[Text] As has already been reported, on 3 March, U.S. Secretary of State Christopher acknowledged that a U.S. official's recent remarks which demanded that the National Security Law [NSL] of South Korea be abolished were not an individual's private opinion, but the official position of the United States. The final acknowledgment made by the U.S. secretary of state on the United States' official position towards this law came out because the South Korean puppets were clamoring that U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Hubbard's remarks calling for the abolition of the NSL in his speech at American University on 25 February were merely an individual's opinion. This proceeded from the present U.S. administration's acknowledgment that one of the reasons for the failure in progress in dialogue and negotiation between the North and the South of Korea lies in South Korea's NSL, and this is, albeit belated, very fortunate.

As everyone is well aware, the NSL of South Korea is a product and legacy of the military dictatorship and a most vicious, evil, fascist law blocking free dialogue and exchange between the North and the South by describing us as an antistate organization and as an enemy. Under the patronage of the United States, the successive military dictatorial regimes of South Korea used the NSL and various anticommunist fascist evil laws to brutally suppress the South Korean people's struggle for independence, democracy, reunification, incite North-South confrontation, and block the country's reunification. Following the fifth and sixth republics, the Kim Yong-sam puppet regime has also been mercilessly suppressing not only the South Korean people's struggle for independence, democracy, and reunification, but also young students and people who called for holding dialogue with us, thus blocking the road to dialogue.

Last year alone, the Kim Yong-sam fascist ring suppressed and blocked all patriotic struggles of the South Korean students and people for national reconciliation, unity, and reunification such as the North-South students' talks that were slated to be held in Panmunjom on 12 June, the fourth pannational rally in Seoul, the Pyongyang-Seoul university students' soccer games, and the North- South student bicycle race. The rascals went so far as to block our proposals to pay respects before the coffin of Rev. Mun Ik-hwan in Seoul and to hold a working-level contact in Panmunjom between North-South Chondoist representatives in order to discuss holding joint North-South celebrations for the centennial of the Kap-o peasants' war.

The truculent, fascist tyranny of the Kim Yong-sam ring which blocked fellow countrymen from expressing condolences and even trampled upon the patriotic and nation-loving will of North-South Chondoists using the NSL evokes strong opposition and rejection by the world's people. The indiscreet infringement upon human rights and the antireunification and antidialogue maneuvers perpetrated indiscreetly by the Kim Yong-sam ring under the mask of being a so- called civilian-led government have been so unscrupulous that even high-ranking U.S. officials were moved to call for the abolishment of the NSL.

One of the reasons why the Kim Yong-sam regime has been branded as a civilian-led fascist regime is because it retains the NSL. It is precisely because of the NSL that various channels of dialogue and exchange between the North and the South in the past have failed to make any progress and that numerous South Korean people who had advocated the country's reunification and who had visited the North were imprisoned.

This notwithstanding, the Kim Yong-sam ring has not only been brutally suppressing the South Korean people's just struggle for independence, democracy, and reunification with the NSL, but is also clamoring that it is impossible to abolish the NSL and the like today, at a time when the issue of abolishing the law has become an issue. The Kim Yong-sam ring's opposition to the abolition of the NSL proceeds from its wicked intention to suppress the South Korean people's just struggle with the law and to block the country's peace and its peaceful reunification. It also more clearly reveals that the rascals' clamor about a civilian-led government and the like is an out-and-out lie and that the rascals are fascist tyrants and national traitors who are dashing toward fascism, division, and confrontation.

The Kim Yong-sam ring is trying to maintain the dirty remainder of its life on a road of fascism and confrontation. This, however, is a gross miscalculation. The road of fascist suppression and confrontation will further incite the popular masses' resistance and will only expedite the Kim Yong-sam ring's ruin. The Kim Yong-sam ring should look straight at the trend of the times and abolish, without delay, the NSL, an antireunification and fascist evil law.

Kim Yong-sam Denounced as National Traitor

SK1003060294 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0940 GMT 9 Mar 94

[Unattributed talk: "Traitor Kim Yong-sam Is Unpardonable Antireunification Element"]

[Text] Today the puppet traitor Kim Yong-sam gravely challenged the ardent desire and aspirations of all fellow countrymen for national reunification and for the great unity of the whole country, thus advancing along the road of North-South confrontation. For a little over a year since he assumed power as the president, the traitor Kim Yong-sam has persistently adhered to antireunification maneuvers, thus showing his ugly shape as a matchless national traitor and a most vicious separatist.

Traitor Kim Yong-sam was exposed to have constantly waged anti-Republic confrontation commotions and provocative northward nuclear war exercises together with outside forces ever since he came into office. Thus, he has aggravated North-South relations. Besides, he blocked [chadan] all dialogue and exchanges between the North and the South and laid more grave obstacles on the road of reunification. In fact, this is an exorbitant unpardonable crime even greater than all of the separatist maneuvers committed by former South Korean dictators throughout the period of their political power.

Just as the South Korean people have branded, the Kim Yong-sam puppet regime is the most vicious antireunification separatist regime of all the successive regimes in South Korea. It is the treacherous enemy of North-South dialogue and peaceful reunification. This is proven by the fact that the rascals have totally blocked North-South dialogue which was held even during the previous periods of military dictatorship.

Last year, we put forward the 10-point program of great unity of the whole country for national reunification, out of a desire to seek national reconciliation and unity and to expedite reunification in the nineties. We also put forward before the South Korean authorities, the issue on exchanging special envoys of top-level authorities between the two sides in order to discuss and solve pending problems, including the nuclear issue.

People from all walks of life in South Korea said that only if the people follow the 10-point program, will the peaceful reunification which 70 million fellow countrymen ardently aspire after, be achieved. They expressed a firm determination to rise more vigorously in the reunification movement.

However, traitor Kim Yong-sam, even after personally receiving our 10-point program for great unity of the whole country, rejected the magnanimous proposal of fellow countrymen for reconciliation and unity, and advanced the road toward confrontation and division against fellow countrymen. The Kim Yong-sam group totally froze North-South high-level talks and obstructed the exchange of special envoys between the two sides. Moreover, it confiscated letters we sent to South Korean authorities, representatives of political parties and public organizations, and figures from all walks of life in order to appeal for achieving reunification in the nineties with the united strength of the nation. By not even delivering the letters, the Kim Yong-sam group acted rashly.

In a news conference marking the 100th day of his inauguration, the puppet traitor said that he cannot shake hands with a partner who has nuclear weapons, and in talks between heads of ruling and opposition parties, he raved that unless the nuclear problem is resolved, he cannot hold a summit. During the early stages of his power, the puppet traitor also made remarks on discussing the reunification issue, and improving relations with the North from the standpoint of being of one people, as though he were going to bring about a change of policy on North-South relations. However, all of his remarks were merely cunning, deceitful tactics designed to mislead public opinion at home and abroad.

The Kim Yong-sam group viciously blocked not only dialogue between the authorities in the North and the South but also multilateral contacts between the North and the South, as well as reunification dialogue between peoples from all walks of life.

Claiming that regardless of form, North-South contacts unapproved by the administration, cannot be tolerated, the puppet traitor Kim Yong-sam mercilessly oppressed youth, students and people from all walks of life who aspired to contact and hold dialogue with the North for reunification through collaboration with communists and with the North.

As a result, last year's 12 June Panmunjom talks between youth and students from the North and the South, the fourth Seoul congress of the pannational meeting for national reunification, a soccer game between students from Pyongyang and Seoul, a bicycle race by students of the North and the South, and all other just advances of exchanges with South Korean youth, students, and people for national reconciliation, unity, and reunification, were suppressed and blocked. The puppet traitors blocked us from conveying our condolences for the late Rev. Mun Ik-hwan in Seoul, and our plan to hold a working-level contact between Chondoist delegations from the North and the South at Panmunjom in order to jointly commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Kabo farmers' war. They blocked the condolence call by fellow countrymen and infringed upon the patriotic intention of the Chondoists of the North and the South. This is an act that can be committed only by such matchlessly wicked traitors and the most atrocious fascist tyrants as that of the Kim Yong-sam clique.

Traitor Kim Yong-sam's antireunification color was eloquently illustrated in his theory on the uselessness of reunification which claimed that unless free democracy and market economy are guaranteed, reunification is worse than division. His antireunification nature was also clearly shown in his so-called three-stage reunification plan which assumes reunification of the system [chedo tongil], which may evoke confrontation and war between fellow countrymen, as a precondition for national reunification.

Many South Korean people unanimously criticized traitor Kim Yong-sam's three-stage reunification plan as keeping intact the main point of the Korean people's commonwealth national reunification plan. In his New Year address and in the New Year press conference early this year, rascal Kim Yong-sam made no mention of reunification, and merely made provocative remarks slandering fellow countrymen. This suggests that traitor Kim Yong-sam will continually aggravate North-South relations this year, too, and will deny reunification. This also shows once again traitor Kim Yong-sam's true color as an antireunification element.

All successive puppets in South Korea repeatedly committed maneuvers for national division. However, no group was as wicked and cunning as separatist maniacs as the Kim Yong-sam clique.

Today, when all fellow countrymen unanimously rise as one in the patriotic reunification movement in order to make 1995 the first year for national reunification, the Kim Yong-sam group wields a bayonet against the people calling for national reconciliation and unity and totally froze North-South dialogue which existed even in times of military dictatorship. The crimes of the Kim Yong-sam group can never be pardoned. Neither North-South dialogue nor peaceful reunification of the nation can be achieved as long as the Kim Yong-sam clique remains intact.

The Kim Yong-sam antireunification regime must immediately be overthrown so as to achieve independent and peaceful reunification of the nation, which all fellow countrymen aspire after. It is natural for the South Korean people to rise in the antigovernment struggle by shouting slogans, "Let us give a hard blow to the Kim Yong-sam separatist regime!" and "Let us cut the neck of the Kim Yong-sam clique, the enemy of reunification!"

The puppet traitor Kim Yong-sam, the enemy of dialogue and reunification, cannot avoid a hard blow by the nation.

Daily Supports Labor Rights 'Struggle' in South

SK1003044694 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0423 GMT 10 Mar 94

["No Repression Can Block Workers' Struggle, NODONG SINMUN"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, March 10 (KCNA)—With no amount of repression can the Kim Yong-sam group block the South Korean workers' struggle for vital rights including wage hike, stresses NODONG SINMUN today.

The news analyst says:

Bus union members in six cities under the Federation of Auto Workers Unions of South Korea have courageously risen up in struggle in the current spring season of wage negotiation. Their demand for vital rights including wage hike is a devand for the payment for their work and a demand for the rights and conditions for a life worthy of human beings. It is the minimum demand they have raised on the last line of retreat. Refusing to meet this demand is tantamount to forcing the workers to die.

Nevertheless, the Kim Yong-sam fascist clique is threatening a "strong countermeasure," branding the workers' struggle for vital rights as "collective selfishness."

The harsher the fascist clique's suppression, the closer the ranks of the South Korean workers and the fiercer their fight for the vital rights and democracy.

VNS: ROK Soldiers Said To Admire Kim Chong-il

SK0903104194 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1010 GMT 9 Mar 94

[Text] Pyongyang, March 9 (KCNA)—Feelings of deep reverence for the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il are growing among South Korean puppet Army soldiers, the Seoul-based radio Voice of National Salvation (VNS) reported.

A Captain Kim of the 21st Division of the puppet Army, chatting with his pals over the situation recently, said the People's Army of the North under the command of General Kim Chong-il, the most famous general in the world, is an unrivalled strong Army.

He said:

"General Kim Chong-il, possessed of outstanding military strategy as his born gift, has built the People's Army into a well-disciplined, unrivalled strong Army. Unity between officers and men, Army-civilian unity, the arming of all the people and the fortification of the whole country are true looks of the mighty North."

Listening to him, a second lieutenant surnamed Choe said:

"The way of averting the danger of war, loving peace and achieving reunification, the ardent aspiration of the nation, is to hold in high esteem and uphold General Kim Chong-il, the most famous general in the world produced by our nation, as commander-in-chief of the national Army. Herein lies the way of warding off national disaster, the way for us to live, for the nation to live and the way of achieving reunification."

Koreans in Japan Group Finalize Action Plan

SK1003104794 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1008 GMT 10 Mar 94

[Text] Pyongyang, March 10 (KCNA)—The Federation of South Koreans in Japan for Democracy and Unification ("Hantongnyon") finalized its action program for 1994 at the second representative conference held in Tokyo recently.

The keynote of the action program is to bring earlier the reunification of the country by strengthening great national unity, repulse foreign interference and realize national independence, peace and denuclearization, t the

"National Security Law" of South Korea scrapped and urge atonement for the history of Japanese imperialist aggression and a settlement of the issue of postwar compensation.

Foreign Party Leaders Greet Kim Chong-il

SK1003104994 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1014 GMT 10 Mar 94

[Text] Pyongyang, March 10 (KCNA)—The dear leader Comade Kim Chong-il received messages of greetings from foreign party leaders on the occasion of his birthday.

The messages came from Hasanul Huq Inu, general secretary of the Central Executive Committee of the Bangladesh National Socialist Party; Dogu Ferincek, chairman of the Workers' Party of Turkey; Manuel Vargas Loureiro, president of the Democratic Renovation Party of Portugal; Vladimir Dado, chairman of the Slovak Communist Party; Denzil Douglas, leader of the St. Kitts-Nevis Labour Party; Ali Houdou, secretary general of the Party of Revolution of Benin; Andres Regiardo Sayan, national general secretary of the "Cambio 90" Movement of Peru; Rosie Douglas, leader of the Labour Party of Dominica; Victor Granda Aguilar, general secretary, and Hernan Rivadenera, international secretary, of the Central Committee of the Socialist Party of Ecuador.

In the messages they extended warmest congratulations to Comrade Kim Chong-il and wished him a long life in good health.

They expressed their belief that the friendly and cooperative relations between their parties and the Workers' Party of Korea would grow stronger and develop in the future, too.

Foreign Media Write on Kim Chong-il's Birthday

SK1003104694 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1006 GMT 10 Mar 94

[Text] Pyongyang, March 10 (KCNA)—Foreign news media dedicated special write-ups to the birthday of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il.

The Tanzanian paper MOTOMOTO said in an article titled "Outstanding Leader of Socialist Movement":

Comrade Kim Chong-il, today when the socialist movement of the world is temporarily going through ordeals, scientifically clarified the purpose of the socialist movement and the road of its victory on the basis of the chuche idea founded by President Kim Il-song.

He made immortal contributions to the development of the socialist movement by clarifying the reactionary essence and harm of modern social democracy and giving correct answers to the question of achieving unity of communist political parties and many other questions.

Special write-ups with portraits of Comrade Kim Chong-il were carried by the Thai papers THE NATION, SIN CHUNG YUAN PAO and XING SAN RIBAO, the British paper ASIAN TIMES, the Mongolian paper UNEN, the Zambian paper ZAMBIA DAILY MAIL, the Nepalese paper JAN MABHOOMI, the Romanin paper EUROPA, the Indian paper DELHI KIGHALA, the Pakistani paper ITTIHAD, the Nicaraguan paper BARRICADA and the Tanzanian paper DAILY NEWS.

Commemorative articles were aired by Guyana state radio, Radio Mali, Russian television, Radio Malta, Madagascan News Agency, radio and television, Togolese radio and television and Yugoslav Belgrade television.

Foreign Groups Decry South Nuclear Development

SK0903234994 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1514 GMT 9 Mar 94

["'South Korea's Nuclear Arms Development Must Be Checked'"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, March 9 (KCNA)—The world public is demanding a stop to the nuclear arms development by the South Korean authorities.

The Zimbabwe-Korea Solidarity and Friendship Association in a statement February 24 noted that the South Korean authorities under the aegis of the United States worked out a policy of developing nuclear weapons and introduced heavy water reactors from the 1970s and now have stockpiled plutonium enough to make hundreds of nuclear bombs and are using them in developing nuclear weapons.

The statement stressed that the South Korean authorities must immediately renounce the policy of nuclear arms development that gravely jeopardizes the Korean nation's right to existence and peace and security in Northeast Asia, and must remove the already stockpiled plutonium and remove the heavy water reactors or replace them aith light water reactors.

The Indian paper TAMAKA DARBAR said it is no secret that South Korea now is possessed of all basic indices of nuclear armament such as the technology of nuclear development, operation of reactors, extraction of nuclear materials, manufacture of nuclear bombs, nuclear testing, possession of means of nuclear delivery and the established system of war by nuclear weapons.

The Nepalese paper HINDU DAINIK wrote that nuclear threat on the Korean peninsula actually comes from South Korea, saying the world recognizes North Korea's sincere efforts for the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula.

Jose Fanequico, executive secretary of the Mozambican Committee for Friendship With the People of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, in a statement urged that the United States and the International Atomic Energy Agency should discard their double- standard policy and check South Korea's nuclear arms development that threatens peace and security in Asia.

Foreign Minister Greets St. Vincent Counterpart

SK0903224694 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1506 GMT 9 Mar 94

[Text] Pyongyang, March 9 (KCNA)—Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam sent a message of greetings to Alpian Allen upon his appointment as minister of external affairs of St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

Expressing the belief that the friendly relations between the two countries would continue to develop on good terms, the message wished him great success in his responsible work.

Gabon President Sends 'Superior' Stone for Tower

SK1003104594 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1002 GMT 10 Mar 94

[Text] Pyongyang, March 10 (KCNA)—Gabonese President El Hadj Omar Bongo donated a stone of superior quality to the Tower of the Chuche Idea in Pyongyang.

He decided to present a light grey colour rare marble, which was polished like mirror and engraved with his name, to President Kim Il-song as a gift, and let the Gabonese ambassador to the DPRK convey it.

The director of Naomi Trading Company in Hong Kong surveyed famous stone production centres to pick a rare natural stone and processed and engraved it with the letters reading "Kim Il-song, Kim Chong-il, Long Live the Great Chuche Idea!" and sent it to the Tower of the Chuche Idea.

More than 600 stones of good quality have been presented to the tower by party, state and government leaders, political parties, public organizations and groups for the study of the chuche idea of over 90 countries, international organizations and public figures since the construction of the tower (1982).

Nepalese National Seminar on Chuche Idea Held

SK1003104894 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1011 GMT 10 Mar 94

[Text] Pyongyang, March 10 (KCNA)—A Nepalese national seminar on the chuche idea took place in Katmandu on the occasion of the birthday of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il.

A report by Manik Lal Shrestha, director of the Nepal Institute for Chuche Studies, was followed by speeches at the seminar.

Noting that Comrade Kim Chong-il has developed and enriched the immortal chuche idea with new profound ideas and theories, they said he is a genius of thought and theory.

They said it is because it is advancing under the banner of the chuche idea that Korea is firmly defending its socialism and demonstrating its fame to the whole world although socialism suffered a setback in some countries.

They stressed that a large number of works authored by Comrade Kim Chong-il serve the world's revolutionary people as a weapon of struggle, as a priceless asset, and resolved to deeply study his classical works.

A message of greetings to Comrade Kim Chong-il was adopted at the seminar.

Meeting Celebrates Mauritius Independence

SK1003043794 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0420 GMT 10 Mar 94

[Text] Pyongyang, March 10 (KCNA)—A meeting was held here Wednesday under the sponsorship of the Korea-Mauritius Friendship Association on the occasion of the 26th anniversary of the independence of Mauritius and the 2d anniversary of the proclamation of the republic.

Present at the meeting were Yi Chol-sin, vice-chairman of the Committee for Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries and vice-chairman of the Korea-Mauritius Friendship Association, and officials concerned and working people in the city.

A speech was made and a message of greetings to the president and the prime minister of Mauritius was adopted.

Daily Stresses Independence in Foreign Relations

SK0903152394 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1505 GMT 9 Mar 94

["Maintaining Independence, Fundamental Principle in Foreign Relations"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, March 9 (KCNA)—To maintain independence in foreign relations is a fundamental principle which must be consistently maintained, says NODONG SINMUN in an article today.

The author of the article notes:

Keeping independence in foreign relations means to establish and develop relations with other countries on the basis of complete equality and mutual respect for sovereignty, to fully exercise sovereignty in external relations and to resolve all the questions by one's own judgement and decision in the interests of the revolution in one's country.

Adhering to independence in foreign relations is a fundamental principle that must be maintained consistently, first of all, because independence is the life and soul of a country and a nation. Independence is the first criterion of an independent and sovereign state. If a country acts under the baton of others, losing independence, it cannot be called an independent and sovereign state, though it has power. If independence is ignored in foreign relations, unequal relations of domination and subjugation appear and the sovereignty of the country and the nation is encroached upon and violated.

Keeping independence in foreign relations is a fundamental principle that must be consistently maintained next because only when independence is maintained can a successful contribution be made to the cause of global independence, the common cause of mankind. An independent world is one free from domination and subjugation, interference and pressure, a world where all the countries and nations fully exercise the sovereignty as masters of their destiny. If the people of each country are to contribute to the realization of global independence as a member of the international community, they must always adhere to independence in foreign relations. Only then there will be in the world neither commanding and submitting countries nor ruling and ruled nations, and full equality and freedom of the countries and nations will be ensured.

The main target of the struggle for making the world independent is the imperialists and other dominationist forces. If all the countries and nations firmly maintain independence, totally reject all forms of interference of outside forces and do not dance to other's tune nor blindly follow others, dominationism will become impotent and strong-arm action and the baton will not work.

Daily Marks Anniversary of Kim Chong-il Work

SK1003105094 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1022 GMT 10 Mar 94

["Highly Important Work That Brought Turn in Development of Revolution"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, March 10 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today dedicates a signed article to the tenth anniversary of the publication of "On Building Up the Revolutionary Ranks and Further Accelerating Socialist Construction," a famous work of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, on March 10, 1984.

For the validity and truthfulness of the idea and theory contained in it, the work has displayed a great vitality through its successful application in the practice of our revolution over the past ten years, the article says, and goes on:

The significance and vitality of the work lie, above all, in that it has helped render the solid political and ideological unity of our party and revolutionary ranks more unbreakable, their single-hearted unity around the illustrious leader.

Expounded in the work are all the matters that should be the guiding principle in strengthening the party and revolutionary ranks, including the task of the party organisations to continue with the vigorous work for strengthening the unity and cohesion of the party.

Now the Korean people are closely united around the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il in ideology and purpose, in morality and sense of obligation, with absolute worship for the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il. It is the noble traits of the Korean people to entrust their destiny entirely to the party and the leader, breathing and talking as the party does and always keeping step with it.

They are convinced that when they are guided by the dear leader they have nothing to be afraid of and they will certainly win. This is the unshakable faith and will cherished deep in their hearts in following the illustrious leader.

The significance and vitality of the work also lie in that it has helped effect a new upsurge in socialist economic construction.

In the work the dear leader stressed that a great upswing should be effected in socialist construction and set forth detailed tasks and ways of dynamically accelerating socialist economic construction.

Under his wise guidance socialist construction is making a confident progress along a straight road of victory and economic construction is rising to a new high tide in Korea today.

The work has displayed a great vitality in establishing the habit of setting store by the military affair in the whole society, displaying the beautiful traits of Army-people unity and carrying on the three-revolution team movement.

It was a proud fruition of our party's great idea of Army-people unity that our People's Army and people rose up as one man last year in hearty response to the order of our Supreme Commander General Kim Chong-il and decisively frustrated the aggressive moves of the enemies and firmly defended our-style socialism.

KCNA Reports on Increase in Timber Production

SK0903234694 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1508 GMT 9 Mar 94

[Text] Pyongyang, March 9 (KCNA)—Timber production is on an increase in Korea.

According to data available at the Ministry of Forestry, over 23,000 more cubic metres of timber has been produced in the last one month than in the like period last year.

The Yanggang and Chagang provincial combined general bureau of forestry set themselves the a goal of carrying out the yearly timber production quotas at more than 75 percent in wintertime. Ty fulfilled the February production plans respectively at 107 and 106.7 percent and are expanding the success this month.

The Sijung, Yonam and many other forestry stations are these days overfulfilling their daily production assignments by more than 30 percent through an effective control of machinery coupled with meticulous organisation of economic affairs.

'Worthwhile Life' of DPRK Women Featured

SK0803152294 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1504 GMT 8 Mar 94

[Text] Pyongyang, March 8 (KCNA)—Today is the international women's day.

The Korean women who had been out of society in the past are now leading a worthwhile life, sharing responsibility with men for the country.

Thanks to the proclamation of the law on sex equality in 1946, the Korean women have been exercising rights on an equal footing with men in the realms of politics, the economy and culture.

They take an active part in the affairs of the state with the rights to vote and to be elected.

The women account for 20.1 percent of the total number of the deputies to the Supreme People's Assembly.

Many women are active in important posts of the party, the state, administrative and economic bodies, working people's organisations and other units.

The role of the women is great in education, culture, public health, commerce, textiles, production of daily necessities and foodstuff.

Many "Kim Il-song Order" and "Kim Il-song Prize" winners have been produced among them for their devoted services to the country and the people.

There are a large number of heroines of the Republic, labor heroines, people's teacher, people's scientist, people's actress and other honorary title winners and the state order bearers.

The state provides the women with all conditions so that they may work without any inconvenience.

As there are nurseries and kindergardens in all places where women work, they devote themselves to work.

The well-furnished modern foodstuff factories, garment factories, household goods factories and public service facilities built in different parts of the country relieve them of the heavy burden of domestic affairs.

The women workers with several children work six hours a day, but they are paid for 8-hour work a day.

And they enjoy such benefits as 150-day maternity paid leave as well as a regular paid leave.

It is regarded as an ordinary thing in Korea that a special plane flies to carry a woman in childbed and a medical team does its best for her.

Villages Change Since Rural Theses Published

SK0803153094 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1511 GMT 8 Mar 94

["Modern Village Thriving Under Tender Care"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, March 8 (KCNA)—Full-fledged preparations for farming are under way in Unjong-ri following the 30th anniversary of the publication of the socialist rural theses (February 25, 1964). The repair and readjustment of farm machines has been completed and the reservoirs are filled with water. Substantial preparations for sowing have been made, and carrying composts to paddy and non-paddy fields and carpeting fields with humus soil have entered the finishing stage.

Unjong-ri is 30 kilometres away from the seat of Pongsan County, North Hwanghae Province, in the central west of Korea. The village surrounded with high and low mountains looks like a picture. It has turned into a modern socialist village good to live and work in under the deep care of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il.

He visited it (then Tanghyon-ri, Sohung County) in winter 30 odd years ago and told by farmers there that they had eked out a hand-to-mouth existence with mountain-side tilling and charcoal-making before the liberation of the country, he unfolded a bright prospect for rural construction. He said the farmers in the mountain areas must turn the mountains to advantage, if they were to be well off and that they must create orchards on sunny hillside, raise silkworms, and actively tap mountain resources to improve their living standard. Saying they should rezone small plots into paddy fields and build many modern houses, he indicated a concrete orientation and ways.

This place has changed beyond recognition since then. Two-and three-storied modern houses for hundreds of families, a nursery, a kindergarten, schools, a hospital and public welfare facilities are standing in rows along the scenic Tanghyon River. Thirty five hectares of paddy fields fit for tillage by machines have taken shape in the place where not a plot of paddy field could be seen before liberation. And nearly 200 hectares of orchards and more than 700 hectares of forests of economic value have been created. Tractors, rice-transplanting machines, rice plucking machines and other farm machines have relieved the agricultural working people from toil.

Agricultural production has grown every year, the output of grain jumping 3.6 times, meat 4.6 times, fruits 7.6 times and vegetables 21 times as against 30 years ago.

Tanghyon-ri was renamed Unjong (benevolence)-ri in October 1981 to hand down through generations the deep loving care shown by the dear leader for the farmers there.

Such change as in Unjong-ri can be seen everywhere in Korea.

South Korea

Seal Damage Alleged in DPRK Nuclear Facility

SK1003073894 Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean 10 Mar 94 p 1

[Report by Washington-based correspondent Sin Chang-uk]

[Text] It has been learned that during inspection of Yongbyon, which began 3 March, the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] inspection team discovered that some seals, which were installed by IAEA to confirm nuclear safeguards of nuclear facilities in North Korea, were destroyed. As a result, it is highly likely that considerable controversies will be touched off concerning the guarantee of transparency of North Korean nuclear development.

In the course of inspecting seven nuclear facilities in North Korea on six occasions in 1993, the IAEA inspected six monitoring cameras, 40 seals, and three radioactivity sensor facilities. In the event that damage of these facilities is confirmed, suspicion that nuclear material was transferred from North Korean nuclear facilities to some other place will be raised. Thus, there is a possibility that the continuity of safeguards of North Korean nuclear facilities may not be recognized.

A source in Washington said that with discovery of such seal damage, the conclusion of the results of IAEA's inspection of North Korean nuclear facilities will be the focus of people's attention. The likelihood that the third round of North Korean-U.S. high-level talks slated for 21 March in Geneva will be held as scheduled is doubtful.

It was reported that in the course of IAEA's inspection of North Korean nuclear facilities, disputes arose between IAEA and North Korea over the issue of continuing the inspection and the damage to the seals.

The team has to leave Pyongyang on 14 March as the IAEA inspection team was granted two-week entry visas upon its arrival in Pyongyang on 1 March.

This being the situation, this week will likely be the climax of IAFA's inspection of North Korean nuclear facilities, and the possibility of resolving the issue of the exchange of special envoys between the North and the South before 21 March is very slim because North Korea has continually showed an attitude of rejection.

Another source observed that North Korea will likely drag on the controversy surrounding the inspection and the issue of North-South special envoy exchange even after 21 March when the third round of high-level talks are scheduled to be held. Thus, the possibility of high-level talks being held on the scheduled date is slim.

Meanwhile, Christine Shelley, a U.S. State Department spokesperson, on 9 March said that the U.S. Government regrets the fact that the IAEA nuclear inspection of North Korea is not proceeding smoothly and expressed the hope that North Korea will keep its promise to sincerely allow IAEA inspections until the inspections are concluded. Commenting on friction between North Korea and IAEA over nuclear inspections, Shelley said that she hopes the IAEA can settle the inspection issue and that the inspections will be concluded. Shelley stressed that regardless of progress in the North-South working contact, the exchange of North-South special envoys, with satisfactory nuclear inspection results, are a precondition for holding the third round of high-level talks agreed to by North Korea.

IAEA Spokesman: Problem Solved

SK1003111294 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 1015 GMT 10 Mar 94

[Report by Chong Chang-won]

[Text] An International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] reliable source said: In the course of its inspection of nuclear facilities at Yongbyon, North Korea, the IAEA inspection team discovered today that some seals of main nuclear facilities were damaged and is taking follow-up measures.

The source said that seals for reactors of five megawatt and over, which had been used for extracting plutonium, were not damaged and that some seals in the radiochemical laboratory—a nuclear waste reprocessing facility—and in the nuclear fuel producing plant seemed to have problems.

The source explained: It is a convention for an inspection team to confirm if nuclear materials in containers with damaged seals are identical to those listed in the first report submitted by a country that is subject to IAEA inspections, as soon as seal damage is confirmed. This enables the inspection team to determine if nuclear materials have been diverted to other purposes.

(David Kyd), information director of the IAEA, said: I am unable to comment now on the question about seal damage in North Korea's nuclear facilities. I will report the details of the result of the ongoing inspection on North Korea to the next meeting of the IAEA Board of Governors.

Saying that the inspection team is now smoothly conducting inspections at Yongbyon, Director (Kyd) hinted that the question about the seal damage, which caused arguments between the inspection team and the North Korean authorities, has been solved smoothly.

The inspection team will continue to inspect nuclear facilities in Yongbyon until this weekend and will leave Pyongyang around 15 March after winding up its inspection early next week.

U.S.-DPRK Talks Said Likely To Be Postponed

SK1003004694 Seoul YONHAP in English 0022 GMT 10 Mar 94

[Text] Washington, March 9 (YONHAP)—As IAEA nuclear inspectors were reportedly experiencing difficulties in North Korea, the United States and South Korea have decided that Washington will be compelled to postpone a third round of talks with Pyongyang unless the Stalinist state changes its attitude.

As of Thursday (KST), the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) team had not been able to inspect the 5-megawatt nuclear reactor and radiochemical laboratory at Yongbyon, sources in New York and Washington said.

Moreover, even if South and North Korea agreed to exchange special envoys at their sixth working-level contact at Panmunjom on Saturday, it would be too late for the exchange to occur before March 21, when the United States and North Korea are scheduled to hold the next high-level meeting in Geneva.

The United States has said these two conditions—IAEA inspections and an inter-Korean exchange of special envoys—are prerequisites to the third round of talks between Washington and Pyongyang.

North Korea wants to continue its negotiations with the United States on normalizing relations and economic assistance, among other things.

The sources said, however, they will have to wait until the weekend to see whether the IAEA inspection team is permitted to inspect the two nuclear facilities at Yongbyon before returning to Vienna.

In this connection, Deputy State Department Spokeswoman Christine Shelly said she understood the IAEA inspectors were encountering "some difficulties" in Yongbyon.

"We, of course, regret that they (IAEA inspections) have not proceeded as smoothly as we would have liked up to this point" she told a regular weekly press briefing.

But noting that there is still some time left, Shelly urged North Korea to meet its commitments that they have made.

She also recalled that the third round of U.S.-North Korean high- level talks can be held only when South and North Korea exchange special envoys to discuss the nuclear question.

Prior to Shelly's remarks, the U.S. State Department was reported to have conveyed the American position on inter-Korean envoy exchange talks to the North Korean Mission to the United Nations in New York on Tuesday (EST).

North Korea has said it did not agree to exchange special envoys as a precondition for further U.S.-North Korean talks. It is also refusing to open the five-megawatt reactor and the radiochemical laboratory to IAEA inspectors.

ROK Said To Reconfirm Policy on U.S.-DPRK Talks

SK1003025194 Seoul YONHAP in English 0238 GMT 10 Mar 94

[Text] Seoul, March 10 (YONHAP)—South Korea has reportedly reconfirmed its policy on postponing the third round of high-level U.S.-North Korean talks slated for March 21 in Geneva if Pyongyang delays an inter-Korean envoy exchange by insisting on four requirements as conditions for the exchange.

At a high-level strategic meeting presided over by Prime Minister Yi Hoe-chang on Thursday morning, the government discussed other measures against North Korea in the wake of Wednesday's unsuccessful meeting on exchanging envoys, informed sources said.

Among the measures is resumption of preparation for this year's joint "Team Spirit" military exercise with the United States if North Korea does not cooperate in international inspections of its seven declared nuclear sites and if the third round of high-level U.S.-North Korea talks is postponed.

The meeting focused on whether the next high-level U.S.-North Korean meeting should be held if an agreement is reached before March 21 to exchange envoys after this date, sources said.

In case either North or South Korea sends an envoy to the other side, instead of a mutual exchange, the government will support holding the next high-level Washington-Pyongyang meeting on March 21 as scheduled.

The government will discuss this policy with U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for Military and Political Affairs Robert Gallucci when he arrives on Thursday evening.

Attending the meeting were Deputy Premier and Unification Minister Yi Yong-tok, Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu, Defense Minister Yi Pyong-tae and Senior Presidential Secretary for Foreign and National Security Affairs Chong Chong-ok.

Prime Minister on Team Spirit; N-S Talks

SK1003085094 Seoul YONHAP in English 0842 GMT 10 Mar 94

[Text] Seoul, March 10 (YONHAP)—In case the inter-Korean working-level contacts fail to make any progress, it is only natural that the third round of high-level talks between Pyongyang and Washington will be suspended and that Team Spirit will be resumed, Prime Minister Yi Hoe-chang confirmed on Thursday.

Yi noted, in a meeting with journalists, that holding the third round of high-level talks and suspending "Team Spirit," the annual South Korean-U.S. joint military exercise, had been decided on condition that South and North Korea exchange special envoys.

Last month, Pyongyang told Washington it would allow unrestricted IAEA [International Atomic Energy Agency] access to seven declared facilities and accept Seoul's proposal to hold working-level talks on exchanging presidential envoys.

In return, Washington was to suspend this year's Team Spirit and conduct high-level talks with North Korea later this month.

"Given the North Korean attitude we saw at the working-level contacts until yesterday, I doubt if North Korea really intends to exchange special envoys with the South. Inter-Korean contacts, if they are only for show (to others), are meaningless," Yi said.

Yi avoided making any decisive remarks on whether Team Spirit would be held.

"I cannot affirm that because it is a subtle military problem. I think we'll have to watch the progress of the inter-Korean working- level contacts, expecting that Pyongyang's attitude will change at the sixth contact slated for Saturday [12 March]."

He said now is not the time to comment on whether international sanctions may be imposed on North Korea if the special envoy exchange is not realized.

On reports that International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) inspectors had found a damaged seal at the North Korean nuclear facilities, Yi said he was briefed on the results of the IAEA inspection.

"But that is a problem for the IAEA to cope with, anyway," he said.

Dailies Assess 9 Mar North-South Contact

SK1003092094

[Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of articles and editorials in Seoul vernacular newspapers published on 10 March on the North-South contact held on 9 March at Panmunjom.

The conservative Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean on page 3 carries an 800-word editorial entitled "Are We That 'Desperate'?" The editorial refutes Chief ROK delegate Song Pyong-tae's remark "that the envoy exchange is a pressing issue that cannot be put aside even for a minute," and calls on Song to disclose if his remark represents the government's official view or is his personal opinion. The editorial notes the issue on exchanging special envoys is "not the supreme task nor a pressing issue, but what we hope for to occur." The editorial deplores that "the South side disclosed all our cards" and that "we begged the North side for the exchange of special envoys, which resulted in North Korea's assuming a haughty attitude toward our demands." Recalling that President Kim Yong-sam expressed his hope for the North-South summit at a news conference, the article concludes that our side's mishandling of the affair is a by-product of "unification-related government officials' flattery, pursuit for personal achievements, and excessive loyalty to fulfill the president's hope."

Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean carries on page 3 a 1,000-word article by An Hui-chang entitled: "The Prospect for Exchanging Special Envoys Before 21 March Grows Dim." The article analyzes North Korea's counterproposal of two additional demands, including maintenance of national self-reliance, on the agenda for discussion by the special envoys, as attempts by North Korea "to break the ROK-U.S. cooperative system by not agreeing to the envoy exchange" and "to size up our government's determination to exchange special envoys."

The article interprets "North Korea's attempt to itemize the special envoys' missions in seven points as an intent to hinder the ROK side from focusing on the nuclear issue." Commenting on North Korea's suggestion to add to the envoys' mission discussions on how to preserve national independence, the article notes "North Korea added this condition to put pressure on the ROK side by raising the issue of U.S. troops stationed in the ROK and to use this as a card during the future North Korean-U.S. talks." The article concludes "such being the case, chances are slim that the special envoys will be exchanged before the third round of U.S.-North Korean talks."

The moderate Seoul HANGUK ILBO in Korean on page 3 carries an 800-word editorial entitled: "How Long Do We Have To Be Dragged About by the North?" Pointing out North Korea's insincere attitude to evade the envoy exchange by presenting two additional demands on the envoys' mission, the editorial calls on the government "not to vacillate or hasten negotiations. Our side should make it clear to the North that practical discussions on the envoy exchange is a precondition for the third round of U.S.-North Korean talks, which the North longs for." The editorial condemns the North for always putting forward "preposterous conditions after reaching an agreement in principle" and predicts that North Korea will make further attempts to "gain more concessions," while repeatedly putting forward additional conditions. The editorial warns the ROK Government not to get entangled in North Korea's foot-dragging tactic and calls on the government "to convince the U.S. side that the North Korean-U.S. talks should be suspended until the North and the South reach an agreement on the pending issues."

The editorial concludes: "If North Korea continues to put forth additional conditions for the envoy exchange, our side should demand that the North disclose its position on its real intention for the envoy exchange."

The pro-government Seoul SEOUL SINMUN in Korean carries on page 2 a 900-word article reviewing the thorny conversations between the two chief delegates, adding that a tense air surrounded the contact. The article adds that the chief delegates held private talks for 20 minutes after the contact, but ROK delegate Song declined to give more details.

The moderate Seoul HANGUK ILBO in Korean carries on page 2 a 900-word article by Yu Sung-u and the conservative Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean carries on page 3 a 1,000-word article by Pak Chae-kun. Both articles review the conversations between the two delegates and describe the atmosphere at the talks as tense.

N-S Religious Group Agrees on Joint Event

SK1003105994 Seoul YONHAP in English 1023 GMT 10 Mar 94

[Text] Seoul, March 10 (YONHAP)—South and North Korean Chondo-kyo [religious organization] delegates met in Beijing on Thursday morning and agreed that 15 North Korean Chondo-kyo delegates would attend ceremonies taking place in Seoul on March 21 to mark the centenary of the Tonghak peasants uprising.

An official at the Seoul's Chondo-kyo headquarters said that at the Beijing meeting, the two sides decided to adopt a joint statement at the Seoul ceremonies and to discuss procedural matters at Panmunjom on North Koreans' coming to Seoul.

He said, however, that it is not certain if North Koreans could attend the Seoul ceremonies because the Seoul government plans to allow the two sides' Panmunjom contacts to discuss procedural matters only when the exchange of special envoys is realized.

The Beijing contact was attended by Pang Chin-kyo, Chondo-kyo chairman, and Hong Chang-hwa, an official of Chondo-kyo College, from Seoul, and Yu Yong-mi, chairman of the North Korean Chondo-kyo Central Committee.

Materialization of North Korean delegates' visit to Seoul would depend on the outcome of the South-North contact slated for coming Saturday [12 March] at Panmunjom on the issue of exchanging special envoys, the official said.

PRC Relations With DPRK Said Rated 'First'

SK1003014894 Seoul KYONGHYANG SINMUN in Korean 10 Mar 94 p 2

[YONHAP report from Tokyo]

[Text] Japan's KYODO news agency reports from Beijing on 9 March that in the upcoming Chinese People's National Congress meeting, the government action report that Premier Li Peng will present is supposed to mention China's friendly relations with North Korea first in its foreign policy division, thereby stressing the complete restoration of North Korea-China relations.

KYODO reported this citing Chinese sources, and said that while China's top priority last year was on the development of Sino- Japanese relations, the order of priority has changed this year.

KYODO said that China will list North Korea-China friendly relations first on China's priority list in Premier Li Peng's foreign policy action report apparently to proclaim the complete restoration of Sino-North Korean relations which have cooled off since the establishment of Sino-ROK relations in August 1992.

Reshuffle of DPRK Economic Ministers Noted

SK1003022494 Seoul YONHAP in English 0112 GMT 10 Mar 94

[Text] Seoul, March 10 (YONHAP)—North Korea recently reshuffled a number of economy-related ministers, suggesting a drastic change in its economic policy, NAEWOE press, the official North Korea watcher here, said on Wednesday.

Change may be forthcoming given that Pyongyang appointed Hong Sok-hyong and Kong Chin-tae as State Planning Commission chairman and vice premier, respectively, about two months ago, according to NAEWOE.

Four ministers were also replaced recently—the forestry minister, Academy of Sciences president, mining industry minister and chairman of the State Commission of Science and Technology—by unknown figures, NAEWOE said.

North Korea established a new Commission on Protection of the Environment last February, but its Chairman Yi Kon-il was replaced by Hwang Sang-chun recently.

The exact reason for the ministerial changes is not known, NAEWOE said.

DPRK Adopts Minimum Wage System for Some Firms

SK1003075594 Seoul YONHAP in English 0746 GMT 10 Mar 94

[Text] Seoul, March 10 (YONHAP)—North Korea has introduced a minimum wage system for foreign-invested enterprises to prepare for possible foreign investment in the future.

The system, however, appears to offer little incentive for foreign companies seeking to invest in North Korea on the strength of its cheap labor, as the minimum wage set for foreign-invested firms is much higher than the country's general wage level.

Late last year, North Korea's Administrative Council established a labor regulation laying down standard labor practices for foreign-invested firms, according to the Korea Trade Promotion Corp. (KOTRA).

The regulation, consisting of 48 articles in eight chapters, provides a minimum wage level and procedures for employing, dismissing and punishing employees and for settling labor disputes at foreign-invested firms.

In Article 26, the regulation stipulates that the minimum monthly wage paid by foreign-invested firms shall not be less than 220 won (about 100 U.S. dollars).

This minimum wage level for foreign-invested firms compares with monthly pay of 30 to 50 dollars for ordinary North Korean workers and the 73-dollar minimum monthly wage for workers in the free trade zone.

KOTRA officials say the higher minimum wage for foreign-invested firms will hinder the Stalinist country's efforts to attract foreign investment.

The regulation also provides that joint-venture firms with foreign equity investment shall give priority either to workers of North Korean partner companies or to those recommended by the relevant employment office when they hire workers—another stumbling block to active foreign investment—according to the officials.

Foreign firms operating in North Korea have previously set working conditions for their employees through negotiations with their North Korean partners or North Korean government authorities.

Papers on U.S.-ROK Trade Talks, USTR Report

SK1003082894

[Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of articles from ROK vernacular papers published on 10 March on the U.S.-ROK trade meetings held on 8 and 9 March and the annual trade policy report released by the U.S. Trade Representative, USTR, on 8 March.

The independent-moderate Seoul MAEIL KYONGJE SINMUN in Korean, which focuses on economic issues, publishes on page 2 a 1,000-word article by Yi Tong-chu reviewing the ROK-U.S. trade meeting. The article reports the United States had a much stronger tone than in previous meetings in its demands and that the meeting was held amid worry and concern over the effect of the Super 301 restoration on the ROK.

The article says our government had been optimistic that the meeting would focus on "the development of general cooperation" but the U.S. side extinguished that optimism by "raising individual subjects, such as the protection of the intellectual property right, IPR, and further opening of the motor vehicle market."

The article reports the United States demanded strengthened regulation on software reproduction and revision of our revised IPR regulations in the IPR sector; and lower tariffs, lower domestic tax, and amendment of automobile taxes in the motor vehicle sector.

The article reports that in response to the U.S. demands, our side explained that we are strengthening investigation of copyright violations and asked the United States to drop the ROK from the priority surveillance list for the IPR and advocated our position that the ROK has already made substantial tariff cuts on motor vehicle imports.

The article concludes that the meeting only reconfirmed the two sides' positions and predicted stronger trade pressure from the United States.

The MAEIL KYONGJE SINMUN publishes on page 4 a 300-word article by Washington correspondent Kim Kyong-su on the USTR's annual trade policy report. The article reports "the USTR positively appraised ROK's contribution to a successful Uruguay Round, but urged early implementation of laws to protect patents, trademarks, and copyrights."

The moderate Seoul HANGUK ILBO in Korean publishes on page 5 a 1,000-word article by Washington correspondent Chong Chin-sok on USTR's annual trade policy report. The article reports that the USTR reported the ROK has taken positive action in lowering tariffs on agricultural and manufactured goods, but stressed continued pressure on the IPR and motor vehicle sectors.

The pro-government Seoul SEOUL SINMUN in Korean publishes on page 8 a 500-word article on USTR's annual trade policy report. The article also reports that "the USTR positively appraised ROK's opening effort, but urged improvement in the IPR and motor vehicle sectors."

Ties With U.S. After Fall of Communism Viewed

SK1003114794 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean
10 Mar 94 p 5

[Article by Kim Kyong-won, president of the Social Science Institute: "Korean-U.S. Relations Without Anticommunism"]

[Text] "Korea offers the worst investment conditions for foreign businesses." "The Korean people distrust all foreigners." "The Korean Government does not want foreign corporations that have invested capital in Korea to succeed in business." These are the American complaints often heard these days. In the latter half of the 1980's, when surpluses in Korean trade with the United States grew, the United States strongly pressured Korea to open its markets.

There is a critical difference in the American mood between now and then. In the 1980's, the United States had called on us to open the market under the premise that the two countries would continue to maintain a close alliance. Now what it says is different. It now makes a brave show of nerves, saying that if Korea should ever reject American businesses, they would depart Korea, for there are many other countries welcoming them, for instance, China, Vietnam, and so forth.

They say that if Korea does not want to maintain close U.S. relations, they would be compelled to regard the Korean-U.S. alliance ties maintained to date just as "a chance occurrence in history, and that there is not necessarily any reason for maintaining the alliance ties any longer."

Why have things turned out like this? The most important reason, in my view, is that communism has fallen and the Soviet Union has collapsed. Up to now, Korean-U.S. alliance ties have been based on the common perception of threat—they were both facing a "communist threat."

Of course, the Korean-U.S. security relationship is still maintained as it is because of the threat from North Korea. From a long-range viewpoint, the fall of world communism has rendered anticommunism meaningless, and Korean-U.S. relations without anticommunism have made new "adhesives" necessary. Unlike in the past, the United States, in particular, is now in the position that it has to regard economic interests more seriously than military considerations. For this reason, it is looking for a new bonding agent in its economic relations.

How should we cope with this situation? First of all, we should consider where the most important interests lie. Russia is roaming amid confusion; China is growing at a horrible speed, and Japan is now standing on the crossroads of maintaining the existing situation or reform. At this point, the United States is the only superpower in the world and is located outside the Northeast Asian region. In what shape should we build our relations with the United States to make them most conducive to the political independence and survival of our nation in the future? On this question, we should form a forthright, clear-cut, national consensus. Otherwise, our foreign policy will become adrift without any distinct direction and economic and national security policies will be in danger of conflicting with each other.

To state the conclusion first, it is essential for Korea to maintain relations with the United States, the superpower outside the region, although it might be important to keep relations with Northeast Asian countries. The Republic of Korea needs a geopolitically steady balance of power in Northeast Asia. Without U.S. participation, a stable balance is impossible in today's circumstances. There is no denying that Korea needs the United States.

Second, we must seriously think about the economy. Our self-reliance does not dictate that we should reject, based on emotionalism, whatever is called for by a great power. That is not our national identity either.

When foreign businesses create employment opportunities here, is that indeed a minus factor for us? If Korea should close the market only to protect domestic industries, could such a protected industry be competitive with foreign business corporations in the world market? Will it be possible for us to develop high technologies, which require enormous sums of investment capital, ourselves? The economic "space" called China is now increasingly broadening to an extent hardly imaginable. To make inroads into that economic sphere, will it not be to the advantage of our businesses to establish strategic ties with American businesses?

If the answers to those questions are that we also need American businesses, we should open the door to the Korean economy on our own, without waiting for the U.S. calls. Before opening the markets, we should resolutely carry out "change and reform," without wasting time, in order to change those things that need changing first.

Finally, we should explain our position to foreigners fairly, squarely, and clearly in a straightforward manner. If we decide to open the door, we should also explain if we need to make necessary preparations for market liberalization. Importance is attached to some indirect and implicative expressions in the Oriental culture. In the West, particularly in the American culture, we need to bear in mind that clear-cut and direct expressions are taken seriously.

There is no mistake that building new Korean-U.S. relations without anticommunism will be one of our most difficult tasks ahead. I believe, however, that it will be the most worthwhile work. Our relations with the United States based on anticommunism had been inescapable, but were not necessarily desirable. Now both Korea and the United States have finally come to participate jointly in the positive work for prosperity and freedom.

U.S. Insurance Firm Allowed To Establish Agents

SK1003020494 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 10 Mar 94 p 8

[Text] The Government has permitted Alexander & Alexander, a U.S. insurance company, and Willis Faber & Dumas, a British insurance company, to establish agents in Korea, the Ministry of Finance said yesterday.

The permission was granted on condition that they close their existing representative offices in the nation, the ministry said.

When the insurance companies obtain approval from the government after completing the procedure of investment by foreigners, they will be able to establish agents who are allowed to sell policies issued by domestic insurance companies.

The agents are required to conclude contracts with domestic insurance companies to sell policies on their behalf. But the agents are not allowed to sell policies issued by foreign insurance companies, the ministry said.

Further on Visit by Romanian Delegation

Trade Ministers Meet

SK1003020994 Seoul YONHAP in English 0038 GMT 10 Mar 94

[Text] Seoul, March 10 (YONHAP)—Trade, Industry and Energy Minister Kim Chol-su and his Romanian counterpart Cristian Ionescu agreed Thursday to hold the first meeting of the Korea-Romania Joint Economic Committee as soon as possible.

In their meeting, Kim proposed that Romanian industries set up subsidiaries and stage goods fairs here while Ionescu, who is visiting with Romanian President Ion Iliescu, suggested that the two countries exchange trade delegations and private-sector visits in a bid to narrow the current trade imbalance.

Seoul sold goods worth 80 million U.S. dollars to Bucharest and imported products worth 6 million dollars to record a 74-million-dollar surplus last year.

Han Meets Counterpart; Signs Pact

SK1003084394 Seoul YONHAP in English 0816 GMT 10 Mar 94

[Text] Seoul, March 10 (YONHAP)—South Korean Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu met his visiting Romanian counterpart Teodor Melescanu Thursday and discussed the North Korean nuclear problem, international affairs and ways to boost bilateral economic cooperation.

Han sought Bucharest's support for Seoul's bid to become a non-permanent member of the United Nations Security Council in 1996-1997, and Melescanu promised full cooperation, said Paek Nak-hwan, director-general of the Ministry's European affairs bureau.

The two foreign ministers also signed an aviation pact allowing Korean civilian airlines to fly freely to the Eastern European country.

ROK To Scale Back Concessions on GATT List Items

SK1003025394 Seoul YONHAP in English 0209 GMT 10 Mar 94

[Text] Seoul, March 10 (YONHAP)—South Korea has decided to scale back tariff concessions on nine industrial items in its list of Uruguay Round commitments due to be submitted to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) on Friday.

The Economic Planning Board presided over an international policy meeting Thursday and decided to impose duties of 3 percent to 4 percent on the nine industrial imports rather than abolishing them, as agreed earlier with the United States in the GATT-sponsored negotiations last December.

In its country schedule, Washington also scaled back tariff concessions recently on the grounds that Japan and the European union had failed to make comparable offers.

Subject to 3-percent duties are three copper products—tube or pipe fittings of copper and alloy, stranded wire copper cable, plated bands and the like.

Under 4-percent tariffs came computer equipment—input and output units, printers, monitors and cathode-ray tube terminals—and semiconductor devices—piezoelectric crystals and crystal vibrators.

With the changes, Korea presented non-tariffication offers on 965 manufactured items instead of the initial 974.

The United States had proposed abolishing tariffs on some electronic, non-ferrous and wood products last December but, rebuffed by Japan, it submitted smaller tariff concessions in the industrial section at the GATT on Feb. 28, a Finance Ministry official said.

Seoul, accordingly, decided to offer tariff cuts instead of none on the same nine items that Washington had scaled down, he said.

It again followed Washington in setting rates, levying the same 3 percent tariffs on copper goods as the United States and other major countries and slashing the current 8-percent duties on electronic goods 50 percent to 4 percent, as was done by the Americans.

Together with its agricultural country schedule, Korea will submit the revised list of industrial offers to the Geneva-based GATT headquarters on Friday.

The schedules of every country undergo screening until March 21, and those drawing complaints from concerned exporting or importing countries will have to go through extra consultations.

Seoul officials say they will actively participate in the screening process to protect their country's interests.

Once the screening is finished, the overall Uruguay Round accord—whether it is revised from the Dec. 15 version or not—will be signed at a ministerial meeting in Morocco in April.

Government To Seek Nonpermanent UN Council Seat

SK1003080694 Seoul YONHAP in English 0748 GMT 10 Mar 94

[Text] Seoul, march 10 (YONHAP)—South Korea has officially notified the United Nations of its intention to seek non-permanent membership in the U.N. Security Council, a government official said Thursday.

He said the government officially conveyed its intent last month to the Asia group, comprising 46 countries, to contest an election for non-permanent members of the Security Council next year at the U.N. General Assembly.

Government Regrets Amnesty International Report

SK1003104294 Seoul YONHAP in English 1019 GMT 10 Mar 94

[Text] Seoul, March 10 (YONHAP)—The South Korean Government on Thursday expressed its regret over the recent Amnesty International (AI) report that human rights conditions have not improved in some sectors in South Korea under the new administration.

Ham Myong-chol, the Foreign Ministry's director-general for international organizations, said the government's regret was contained in a message it delivered to the Amnesty International through the Korean Embassy in London.

The government pointed out in the letter it was not desirable that AI published such a report at a time when follow-up measures were being taken in the country to better institute the democratic system.

"It seems that AI was not fully aware of the new government's democratization policies and that it observed Korea's human rights conditions from the past's biased point of view," Ham said.

He said it was especially regrettable that AI prepared the report based only on the statements by those involved and their families.

The official said the instances cited in the report were cases of actual law violations such as espionage activities. "There can be no political prisoners nor any acts of torture in Korea since the birth of the civilian-led government," Ham said.

NSP Arrests Man Charged With NSL Violation

SK1003102494 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 0903 GMT 10 Mar 94

[Text] The Agency for National Security Planning [NSP] revealed today the arrest of Yi Pok-hon, 32, who, following orders from North Korea, had conspired with an international criminal group to remove [chego] figures engaged in anti-North activities abroad after he received terrorist training in North Korea. The NSP requested an arrest warrant for him on a charge of violation of the National Security Law [NSL].

When he was placed on the wanted list on charges of fraud in 1990, Yi went to Malaysia and joined the international criminal group Asia Sharon, which is involved in drug smuggling and contract violation. He is under suspicion of visiting North Korea six times.

The NSP reported that during his visit to North Korea, Yi was warmly received by Kim Chong-il and received an order from (Choe Sung-kap), a leading member of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland, to remove Pak Kap-tong and Yi Sang-cho, who are carrying out anti-North activities, by winning over the head of a South Korean gangster organization. According to the North Korean order, he was engaged in conspiracy [amyak].

The NSP also reported that Yi arranged the sale of North Korean weapons to 50 Asia Sharon members in June 1993 to assist them in special military training [tuksu kunsa hullyon] in North Korea. Thus, he served as a channel between the international criminal group and North Korea.

YONHAP Reports on Yi Pok-hon

SK1003113494 Seoul YONHAP in English 1119 GMT 10 Mar 94

[Text] Seoul, March 10 (YONHAP)—A South Korean man who had allegedly been working for North Korea abroad was arrested by the Agency for National Security Planning (NSP) on Thursday.

The spy suspect was identified only as Yi Pok-hon, age 32.

An NSP official said on Thursday Yi fled the country in April 1990 soon after he was placed on a wanted list on swindle charges.

Later in September 1991 he joined the "Asia Sharon," a criminal organization, based in Dacca, Bangladesh, and worked for North Korea while at the criminal ring, the official said.

Yi is suspected of having entered North Korea six times from April 1992 through November 1993 to receive espionage training and instructions.

The official said he was first picked up by North Korea in April 1992 when he called at the Pyongyang Embassy in Bangkok to solicit its help in giving shooting training to "Asia Sharon" gangsters.

The instructions he received from North Korea were to assassinate anti-Pyongyang Koreans abroad and win over bosses of organized criminal rings in South Korea.

The NSP official said Yi gave 1.5 million dollars to North Korea for giving military training to "Asia Sharon" members and also supplied some espionage items such as forged passports, visa cards and traveler's checks to Pyongyang.

He is further alleged to have arranged a contract for the sale of 500 million dollars' worth of North Korean weapons to a guerrila organization in a Southeast Asian country.

Yi was arrested by public security authorities of China on last March 8, deported to Korea and was carried away by the NSP on arrival at Kimpo Airport.

* Revised NSP Law Restricts Security Activity

942C0070A Seoul CHUGAN CHOSON in Korean 23 Dec 93 pp 34-36

[By reporter U Chong-chang]

[Text] How will the Agency for National Security Planning [NSP] change after the revision of the NSP Law?

This happened one year ago, at the time of the NSP investigation into the "South Korean Workers Party Incident." NSP anti-Communist investigators set out, unarmed as always, to arrest suspected spies. It is said that even though clearly aware of the fact that the suspects were armed with pistols brought in from North Korea and metal pipes with 30-cm blades, the investigators went empty-handed.

Why did they do this? The reason is simple. It was a silent protest against the social climate in which if during the arrest process a suspect happens to be injured, he is suddenly treated as a "champion of democracy." "So what if he fires his gun. He only has a few rounds in it. If you're unlucky and you get hit, you die...this was the mood of the anti-Communist team at that time," said one investigator.

This is an example showing the image of the NSP one year ago. A year has passed since then and the situation is worse now, say NSP personnel. A year ago, they could work even if it meant being prepared to take a bullet. Now, however, things have grown so bad they have to worry more about being "prison bound" than work, they say. This is because prison sentences are clearly stated in the penal regulations of the revised NSP Law.

Since the passage of the NSP-Law Reform Bill in the National Assembly last 7 December, NSP personnel have lost heart and their morale has dropped. However, they all sympathize with the "broad principle" that the NSP must change, casting off its old image. Thus, they seem not to be particularly dissatisfied with the revision of the NSP Law itself.

Since the birth of the Kim Yong-sam administration, however, due to the fact that the NSP's own reform efforts, centered around NSP Director Kim Tok, are not acknowledged in political circles and to the adoption of inequitable penal regulations effecting only NSP personnel, they are saddened on the one hand, and worried about the enormous psychological burden they will have to bear in the investigation process on the other.

The main framework of this revised NSP Law tied the hands of the NSP in two stages. The first greatly reduced NSP jurisdiction; the second called for penalties heavier than those given to ordinary public servants when, due to an abuse of power by NSP personnel, there is an infringement of civil rights or involvement in politics. Representative of this reduction of NSP jurisdiction are the establishment of an Intelligence Committee, the abolition of security-inspection authority, the prohibition against involvement in politics, and a reduction in investigative authority.

The establishment of the Intelligence Committee signifies the birth of a genuine surveillance organization of the legislature for keeping watch on the NSP. To makes its appearance after the revision of the National Assembly Law, the Intelligence Committee, by its function of examining the NSP's budget, can in actuality observe all NSP activity.

Security-inspection authority has been understood as the NSP's "means of control" over the various ministries and offices of government and organizations at each level. With the disappearance of this jurisdiction, the NSP lost its influence over these organizations. With the expansion of the prohibition against participation in politics, no NSP employee may be involved in any political activity, such as support for or obstruction of the formation of political parties or entrance into such parties, or support for or obstruction of a specific political party or specific politician. With the reduction of the NSP's investigative authority, investigations into the crimes of encouragement and praise of the enemy [komuchanyangjoe] and negligence, provided for by NSP Law, will be handled by the public prosecutor's office.

Of these, the establishment of the Intelligence Committee, abolition of security-inspection authority, and prohibition against political involvement are included in the revisions to the law made by the NSP itself. They are also part of the self-reform being pursued by the NSP since NSP Director Kim Tok took office.

Actually, since the appointment of Director Kim Tok, the NSP has been walking the path of transformation by the large-scale reshuffling of its organization and adjustment of its operational direction. Unlike former presidents, after taking office President Kim Yong-sam has made clear on several occasions that he would prevent the NSP from carrying out political operations.

The NSP's abolition of the Intelligence Coordination and Deliberations Council [Chongbo Chojong Hyopui Hoe], known as the "Council for Countermeasures on Agencies Concerned [Kwangye Kigwan Taechaek Hoeui]," was one change made following the president's intentions. Misunderstood as organizations exclusively responsible for political surveillance, some "associated bureaus" were eliminated during the agency's reorganization. The number of nationwide branch offices, set up separately from province and city branch offices, was also greatly reduced.

Since the security-inspection authority provided room for criticism, the over 200 organizations subject to such authority was greatly reduced to over 100. To cast off its bad name of being a veiled organization, a public information office was created within the NSP. In its Public Service Center, phone lines were opened for dealing with various civil appeals connected with the NSP.

Through this series of self-reform measures, the NSP was in the middle of transforming from the negative "power-agency" image of the past to a new one as an "intelligence agency." These NSP efforts are all included in the NSP Law Revision Bill laid out by the government ruling party, said the NSP director's special aid on legal affairs Cho Man-hu.

"The government ruling party's bill on NSP-Law reform was prepared by the NSP itself," said Cho. "The purpose of the revision is to give the NSP jurisdiction as an intelligence agency directly subordinate to the president, but to prevent the misuse of power." Cho also said, "As proposals for blocking the abuse of authority, the regulation against the infringement of civil rights and the article calling for control by the National Assembly's Intelligence Committee were put there by the NSP," and, "The parts about abolishing security-inspection authority and punishing personnel who have become involved in politics were also first proposed by the NSP."

"Isn't the call for unconditionally heavy penalties for the wrongful exercise of authority and political involvement of only NSP personnel, despite this, a severe legal inequality?" countered Cho. For the most part, NSP personnel are disinterestedly accepting the reduction of their authority, but concerning the penal regulations on wrongful use of authority and political involvement, they are very perplexed.

It is a well-known fact that the NSP and its predecessor, the Korean Central Intelligence Agency, were able to wield unlimited power as the highest power organizations not because of the law, but because of a problem of administration. It is true that, because "the interests of the president were the interests of the NSP director," the NSP has moved centered around one man, the ruler. NSP personnel came to be involved in politics and to abuse their authority to protect a regime with a weak support base.

The revised law, however, requires a maximum of seven years confinement for NSP personnel involved in politics and a maximum of seven years confinement for wrongful exercise of authority. This is some five years longer than penal codes applying to general public servants, says Cho. Also, in the case of political involvement, even if personnel do not directly involve themselves in politics, the law requires that they be punished if only traces of involvement are found. It even calls for the punishment of attempted political involvement. The morale of NSP personnel cannot help but drop.

These are the articles that will have the most influence on the NSP's future activities. There is a strong probability that political involvement being a crime will restrict intelligence collection and that the wrongful exercise of authority is dealing a psychological blow to anti-Communist investigations, worry NSP sources.

These are the words of special assistant Cho Man-hu:

"The NSP must not be involved in politics. However, intelligence collection is a normal NSP activity. The NSP is being vilified for the wrongs of past governments, but after taking office, Director Kim Tok has prohibited NSP personnel from entering other organizations and has eliminated bureaus associated with politics. With the opportunity provided by the birth of the civilian government, a mood is forming centered around Director Kim Tok, in which NSP personnel want to do right. We led the revision of the NSP Law as well. But many are secretly disappointed because of the penal regulations. However, the NSP should not be a burden to the nation or the president. So, although unsatisfactory, I believe we have no choice but to accept it. I'm sorry for our personnel, but the only words we have to give them concern principle: 'Please work with a sense of mission, with a feeling of being reborn.'"

Another area to be influenced every bit as much as intelligence collection is anti-Communist investigations. The newly created regulations on the wrongful exercise of authority prohibit illegal arrest and confinement and call for confinement of up to seven years for the violation of this. For cases in which a person was not allowed to see a lawyer, the notification of arrest was not made, or a person was prevented from seeing family, the regulations call for confinement of up to one year or a 5-million-won fine.

One anti-Communist investigator explained the difficulty of anti-Communist investigations this way:

"The persons arrested by the NSP are high-level, hard-core criminals. Because they generally use assumed names, even if they are arrested, usually only their faces and the fact of their crimes is known, not their names and addresses. A long time is required just to verify their identities, such as taking finger prints and sending them to the police to learn their names. This is why aliases rather than true names are used in the espionage incidents reported by the NSP. According to the revised NSP Law, notification of arrest must be made immediately and violations are punished by up to a one year's confinement. How is it possible to notify someone when you don't know the arrested person's name or address?

"It also calls for punishment if a subject's right to see a lawyer and family is infringed. If a lawyer or family member comes to visit, but just leaves after waiting for a while and then accuses the investigator in charge of not allowing them to visit, an investigation into the matter is neglected while the investigator is up till dawn being accused and charged. If we permit a subject to see a lawyer without any justifiable reason, regardless of the time, we can't even carry out an investigation properly. It is my understanding that in general criminal investigations as well there are times when the subject is not permitted to see a lawyer. I believe there is a problem with indiscriminately making public an investigation into political offenses such as espionage."

There is a high probability that the revised NSP Law will limit the activity of NSP personnel due to the strictness of its penalties, he says. However, just because the NSP-Law Revision Bill passed the National Assembly does not mean that the NSP will change right away. It must be followed by the revision of associated legislation, such as the National Assembly Law, for establishing an Intelligence Committee and must afterward be officially announced by the government to have authority.

"Having been dragged out seven years, beginning in 1987 when the opposition had a majority in the National Assembly, we actually feel unencumbered now that the NSP Law has finally come to an end," react some NSP personnel to the NSP-Law revision, "We hope the NSP will no longer be brought up by the political sector as an object of denunciation."

How will the NSP change in the future?

"With the improvement of its manpower-management system, the specialization of its staff, and the reform of its operations to make them scientific as core tasks, we will directly link all the NSP's capabilities with the national interests and security, developing the NSP into an institution of the people," said special aid Cho Man-hu, "We will do our best to develop the NSP into an organization which is loved by the people and which concerns itself with the national interests, into an advanced intelligence agency living and breathing among the people."

* Police Expand 'Intelligence Collection'

942C0070B Seoul CHUGAN CHOSON in Korean 27 Jan 94 pp 24-26

[By reporter Im Ho-chun]

[Text] The half-joke-half-serious phrase, "the future will be a police era," is circulating among those in the intelligence field. There is a high probability that the police will surpass the Agency for National Security Planning [NSP] and Defense Security Command [DSC] in intelligence capability and that an era will come when police information is treated as the "highest class" intelligence.

This talk is not circulating because the police's intelligence capability, that is its collection, analytical and interpretation capabilities, is better than other agencies. It is because, confronted by an era of civilian government, the activities of the NSP and DSC, long exercising tremendous influence, have been relatively reduced.

"Can police intelligence continue like this?"—words casually dropped by Home Affairs Minister Choe Hyong-u after his appointment as minister. The words of Minister Choe became widely known in political circles and there are many people who interpret them as instructions to strengthen police intelligence capability. Those in police intelligence were also greatly encouraged by this one statement.

In connection with this statement, there are those who ponder the fact that last year the National Police Administration created a new position in its Intelligence Bureau: Intelligence Analyst. Some look at this and speculate, "The police have gone into full-scale research to strengthen their intelligence capabilities." Although the duties of the intelligence analyst are not yet known in detail, attention has focused on the fact that at a delicate point in time, a senior superintendent, with the rank of police-station chief, was put in the position.

One thing to be considered carefully in connection with the reduction of the activity of the NSP, considered the highest intelligence agency, is the activation of the Telecommunications Secrecy Protection Law. Actually, it is no secret that a considerable portion of the NSP's intelligence collection depended on wire tapping.

In an inspection of Korean Telecommunications by the National Assembly's Transportation and Communications Committee held October 22 of last year, Democratic Party lawmaker Yi Yun-su divulged, "The NSP has exclusive use of 9,000 telephone circuits. Of these, over 5,000 are used for eavesdropping."

Rep. Yi demanded that they "reveal precise details," but Korean Telecommunications representatives equivocated, saying, "We don't yet have a grasp of it." "Considering that the police have only 885 dedicated circuits and the DSC has only 383, although both have similar intelligence duties, this supports the view that the NSP depends for a considerable portion of its intelligence on wiretapping," insisted Rep. Yi.

The intelligence activities of the NSP were dealt a fatal blow last year when the Telecommunications Secrecy Protection Law passed the National Assembly. The decoration of the pages of daily newspapers by articles entitled, "NSP Employees Stop Work," is not unrelated to this. "It's not that we have stopped work altogether, as they are saying on the outside, but it is true that morale has dropped considerably," said one NSP source, indirectly conveying the mood within the NSP.

The DSC, which stirred up a controversy because of its surveillance of civilians, already cut off its arms and legs last year. Beginning with a sudden change of the DSC commander, the DSC reorganization led into the abolition of its intelligence office (Office II), which was responsible for intelligence collection against civilians, together with the movement of municipal and provincial-level security units to within military bases. Also, over 400 veteran intelligence agents who had been working in rear areas were moved to forward areas. The DSC is now powerless in any arena other than national-defense-related intelligence.

Such variables external to the police thus encourage the idea that, as far as intelligence goes, this is the "era of the police."

In the vicinity of Seoul's Sogang University and in front of Ehwa University, there are several offices with signs reading, "Council" [as published]. In their names, these offices do not fit in with the mood of a university neighborhood.

These offices are actually intelligence offices subordinate to the Police Administration's Intelligence Bureau: they collect various kinds of information tied in with politics, economics, and the college area. The Police Administration has three such offices within Seoul. The entrance to the National Assembly building and political party buildings are also the responsibility of police officers belonging to these intelligence offices. The police's intelligence organization is this broad.

Police intelligence activities tie the nation together as with a spider's web. Those active in the front lines of intelligence collection are the intelligence-section detectives of each police station. Also, taking responsibility for one police box each within their respective jurisdictions, they gather information on important figures living in their areas and public opinion within their jurisdictions. Thus, they in fact have every quarter of the entire country covered.

The police station intelligence department is divided into Intelligence Sections I and II. Pure intelligence-collection activities are the responsibility of Intelligence Section II. Although there are places with less than ten police officers, 20-30 detectives are active for police stations in areas of Seoul with concentrations of major organizations and in areas near universities.

Information collected at each police station is sent to the municipal or provincial police intelligence-management department. This once again goes up to the National Police Administration, where the administration's intelligence analyst interprets information based on this.

Even apart from this intelligence system with its vertical organization, the National Police Administration, municipal and provincial police also have separate, horizontal organizations. The Seoul Municipal Police have an Intelligence-Management Department with Intelligence Sections I and II. Other municipal and provincial police also have similar structures. The Intelligence Bureau within the Police Administration has Intelligence Sections I through IV. This is the place that epitomizes nationwide police intelligence.

Intelligence Section I is responsible for general affairs; Section II, for collecting information on politics; Section III, on economics and society; and Section IV, on academia and religion. Intelligence Sections II, III, and IV manage Intelligence offices 1, 2, and 3 respectively. It would not be far off the mark to say that the entire public is confined within the police intelligence network.

Besides this, the police even have officers dispatched to the Blue House, NSP, DSC, the courts, and public prosecutor's offices. Of all government departments, the police have the greatest number of government workers dispatched to other places. Although not attached to duty, there is even a designated person responsible for the media.

However, this does not mean that police intelligence has tremendous influence. Although its collection capability is outstanding, it has been considered to be relatively behind in its analysis and interpretation capabilities. "Police intelligence is rock-bottom intelligence: a collection of all of the most detailed but trivial information," said one intelligence police officer, "Accessing high-class information is not an easy thing."

Let us look at an example. There was a police officer in his fifties working at the Namdaemun police station in Seoul. He has now moved to a different police station within Seoul, but many people remember his activity when he was in charge of the Samsung Group as a member of the intelligence section. As an intelligence-section "detective," his rank was not that high, but there was not a Samsung Group director who did not know his name. This was because concerning internal information on the Samsung Group, and particularly information about the movements of the group's head, he was the quickest and most knowledgeable.

Among the intelligence he collected was information unknown to even the NSP, the leader of intelligence agencies. Long "frequenting" the Samsung Group headquarters, it was possible for him to collect even trivial information on things such as the exchange of the air purifier in the C.E.O.'s office. However, his activities never got him much credit. The information he collected was, in a word, fragmentary. Police analytical capabilities were unable to thread this voluminous information together to make a product. Even if they could have been said to have made a "product," it was always behind that of the NSP and DSC. This is because the police intelligence of the Fifth and Sixth Republics had no influence.

The main reason the police were unlikely to access high-class information and so could not help but fall behind the NSP, was "money," say sources associated with police intelligence. "The NSP pours out bundles of money. Naturally, high-class information follows," said one police-intelligence source.

Concerning the question, "Will a time come when the police surpass the NSP and DSC in intelligence capability?" present theories are unlikely to give a clear answer. This is because, although there are clear signs of this, there is still no movement in that direction.

"I have not heard a concrete commitment from Minister Choe concerning the strengthening of police intelligence capabilities," said Senior Superintendent General Yi Su-il, the National Police Administration's Intelligence Bureau Chief. "It is only speculation based on various circumstances. There have been no concrete efforts taken within the Police Administration to improve its intelligence organization and it is technically impossible to change an intelligence organization in a day."

"The establishment of the position of Intelligence Analyst was only a separation of the existing intelligence-analysis personnel," said Yi. "It is unrelated to movements to strengthen intelligence capability."

However, one source associated with the police said, "The attempt by President Kim Yong-sam and Minister Choe Hyong-u, representative victims of the past abnormal intelligence activities of the NSP and DSC, to strengthen the legal intelligence activities of the police in conjunction with an era of civilian government is only natural." The source also said, "Internally, the police will be deliberating on proposals now."

"The quality of intelligence has a deep correlation with money," said one National Police Administration source, "even if there are efforts at improvement, because if there is no budget support the results will not be remarkable." "Even if it changes, it won't change much in a short time," he forecasted.

Always crowded out by the NSP and DSC, even while having the most massive organization and number of personnel of the three intelligence agencies, the police now appear to be gradually gaining strength. One police officer said, "Within the limits of what is not damaging to the public, intelligence collection must proceed, appearing to be and not to be at the same time."

Former Air Force Chief Gets Suspended Sentence

SK1003080394 Seoul YONHAP in English 0736 GMT 10 Mar 94

[Text] Seoul, March 10 (YONHAP)—Han Chu-sok, former Air Force chief of staff, was released from jail Thursday as the Seoul High Court, taking his confession into account, commuted his sentence to a suspended three-year term plus a fine of 160 million won.

The retired general had been condemned to five years' imprisonment and a fine of 160 million won at a lower court after being convicted of taking bribes in connection with Yulgok military modernization projects.

Presiding Judge Ko Hyon-chol said the court was commuting his sentence after finding that his voluntary appearance before the prosecution and confession to graft, even though it was not fully detailed, was tantamount to self-surrender.

He thus became the fifth of seven senior military officers, accused last spring of alleged graft related to the Yulgok project and promotion in the military, to be released with a suspended sentence in the appellate court in light of their confessions.

Four others are former Defense Minister Yi Chong-ku, former Naval Operations Chief of Staff Gen. Kim Chol-u, former Air Force Chief Chong Yong-hu and former Marine Corps Commandant Cho Ki-yop.

Of the two others, former Defense Minister Yi Sang-hun was released on suspended sentence in a lower court. Only former Chief of Naval Operations Kim Chong-ho remains jailed after being sentenced to three years' imprisonment at his appeal.

* DLP Seeks To Play Stronger Political Role

942C0067A Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean 12 Jan 94 p 8

[By Song Yong-chol and Kim Chang-hyok]

[Text] "Senior Paek, I'm waiting to see how you get Minister Choe Hyong-u under your control."

These are the words, said half in jest, of Rep. Kang Sam-chae, who moved from the position of Policy Coordination Office II Director to Director of Planning Coordination with the reorganization of the Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] which followed the cabinet reshuffle in December of last year.

The person he called "Senior Paek" is Rep. Paek Nam-chi, who switched places with Rep. Kang to be appointed director of Policy Coordination Office II. This is the position with overall control of DLP-government deliberations on noneconomic sectors.

Rep. Kang and Rep. Paek have worked closely together in the Democratic-Party faction, which could also be called the chinjong [the home of a married woman's parents. This refers to the remnants within the DLP of the Democratic Party of which Kim Yong-sam was head until his "marriage" with the Democratic Justice Party and Republican Party to form the DLP] of President Kim Yong-sam. Rep. Choe Hyong-u, appointed home affairs minister in the cabinet reshuffle (former secretary general), is their senior in the Democratic-Party faction.

Was Kang showing that he thought that if Minister Choe were "under control," there would be no problems in their relationships with other ministers? Was he encouraging Paek not to be daunted just because added to the stern Prime Minister Yi Hoe-chang there was now an influential home affairs minister? Or was it a joke coming from his composure, the result of a stabilized relationship between the party and the administration? Maybe it was all three.

Actually, not that long ago, soon after President Kim took office, the relationship between the DLP and the administration was more than a little shaky. There were many occasions when senior government officials would go to the DLP headquarters on Youido for party-government deliberations only to leave embarrassed at the resentful scolding given them by the party side. This was particularly severe for officials of the health and education ministries, which experienced many scandals such as the herbalist-pharmacist dispute and college-entrance examination irregularities.

With the passage of time, however, the once up-in-the-air relationship between the DLP and the administration is experiencing a soft landing. Government ministries and offices are faithfully going through the process of party-government deliberations and some "powerless departments" have actually come to use party-government cooperation to depend on the party for policy momentum.

President Kim's intentional care played a big part in bring about this change. Before approving important cabinet policies, President Kim would ask, "Has this gone through party-government deliberations?" The administration's posture changed markedly as this became more frequent, according to a DLP source.

President Kim may have his own reasons for thus setting out to ensure "party-government cooperation." This is said to be because Kim is from a minority faction of the ruling party. Thus, the situation cannot be the same as one in which a majority-faction president would inherit power from a past administration.

As the influence of the DLP grew owing to the care of President Kim, the relationship between the party and the government grew stable. Only last year, measures supplementing the financial real-name system were taken under the leadership of the DLP, to include a revision of the Enforcement Ordinance, built around a relaxation of excess-profit taxes on real estate, and the issue of long-term, low-interest, unregistered bonds.

The early party-government relationship was much dependent on the "comradely solidarity" of Democratic-Party-faction members in the party and the cabinet. Although it was not carried through, First Minister of State for Political Affairs Kim Tok-ryong, Director of Planning Coordination Paek Nam-chi, and Policy Coordination Office II Director Kang Sam-chae's putting their weight behind the progressive labor-management policy of Labor Minister Yi In-che is one example of this. This year too, Home Affairs Minister Choe Hyong-u and Political Affairs First Minister So Chong-won are leading party-government cooperation together with Directors Kang and Paek.

Recently, however, even some not belonging to the Democratic-Party faction have started to participate in party-government cooperation. Party President [PP] Kim Chong-pil, in a formal meeting with the Yi Hoe-chang Cabinet after the party and government reorganization late last year, called the attention of the government side to the DLP's position, stressing, "After President Kim's five-year term is over, it will be the ruling party, the DLP, which is judged for the results of his management of the government.

Once every week, PP Kim meets with President Kim to report on operations and to see to President Kim's requests. The mood of this weekly meeting is completely different from that of the weekly meetings between PP Kim Yong-sam and President No Tae-u during the Sixth Republic. There was tension in the meetings between President No and PP Kim, but the present President Kim-PP Kim meetings have changed, showing a completely vertical relationship.

In the relationship between the Blue House and the DLP, at first, the Blue House had control of everything. Now, for most important policies, the Blue House determines direction, the DLP supports this, and the administration follows behind.

Political-reform bills, such as the Integrated Election Law, the Political Party Law, and the Political Funding Law, presently undergoing negotiations between government and opposition parties, were created based on President Kim's ideas on an "election that does not take money." Late last year when the regular session of the National Assembly was adrift due to the budget and the autumn-harvest-grain problem, the DLP laid out a compromise bill on the Agency for National Security Planning Law, bringing the National Assembly back to normal. It is said that this was done following the ideas and at the request of the Blue House.

Contrarily, there were many cases in which the DLP intended to do something, but had the brakes put on by the Blue House. The DLP Special Committee for Social Reform and party officials presented proposals, such as the abolition of the up-myon-tong system, a prohibition of government-service employees from using private vehicles to commute to work, a reform of the reserve armed forces system, and a proposal to make use of the Yongsan War Memorial, only to be reprimanded by the Blue House for "not even giving thought to the plausibility of realizing" them.

In this process, voices began to be heard pointing to the runaway leadership of the Blue House and to the powerlessness of the DLP. "In the past, there were many bureaucrats in the Blue House, and members of the administration-transition team were in the minority. Therefore, its leadership of the party was weak. Now, however, a considerable number of the administration-transition team and many from the DLP are in the Blue House. Thus the inner mind of the president is silently conveyed to the DLP," explained one Blue House source concerning this.

As examples of this, the source brought up the fact that since President Kim took office, the number of events to which party officials are called has grown considerably and that a large number of Blue House figures participated in this year's DLP New Year's celebration.

DLP channels within the Blue House are Chief Secretary Pak Kwan-yong, Chief of Political Affairs Yi Won-chong, and Party-Government Affairs Secretary Yun Won-chung, all from the DLP. Chief Secretary Pak and Secretary Yi deal with the three main leaders, Secretary General Mun Chong-su, Policy Committee Chairman Yi

Se-ki, and Assembly Floor Leader Yi Han-tong. Secretary Yun generally deals with mid-level party officials.

* Former People's Party Chairman Interviewed

942C0064B Seoul MAL in Korean Jan 94 pp 66-68

[By chief editor Chong Mun-hwa]

[Text] Active during the 1970s and 1980s in the front lines of the nationalist-democratic struggle against the military regime, former People's Party [Minjungdang] [PP] Policy Committee chairman Chang Ki-pyo was released in early November after completing a one-year jail term for "negligence" in connection with the "Yi Son-sil Incident." In view of his relative importance and influence in opposition circles, the course of action Chang Ki-pyo takes is predicted to have considerable influence on the nationalist-democratic movement and on the problem of making a political force out of the opposition camp.

In 1989, during his time in the National Democratic Alliance of Youth and Students, Chang Ki-pyo seriously raised in the students movement the issue of transforming the opposition into a political force, giving birth to the PP. With its failure in the 1992 general election, however, the possibility vanished for the PP to be an independent political force of the opposition. In his very first interview after being released from prison, Chang Ki-pyo showed a strong attachment and intention to build an independent political party uniting all the opposition, and set up the construction of a "new, progressive, political-party-oriented political organization" as his immediate task.

I met with Chang Ki-pyo in his Tongjak Cultural Center office, which he created as a base for regional activity when he ran for office as a PP candidate in Kap-ku, Tongjak in 1992. There I heard his perceptions on the domestic situation during this transition period and his ideas on the progress of the nationalist-democratic movement and the problem of making a political force out of the opposition.

[Chong Mun-hwa] First of all, in the opposition movement too, people are evaluating the reform policies of Kim Yong-sam's civilian government in a variety of ways. What is your evaluation of these reform policies?

[Chang Ki-pyo] The series of reform measures carried out by the Kim Yong-sam administration after its inauguration, forcing the military to withdraw from politics, the personal-assets registration of senior government officials, the implementation of the real-name financial system, the refusal of the Blue House to accept political funding, and so on, were immensely well done. These were epoch-making measures which liquidated the vestiges of the military dictatorship. Some, including the media, criticize this as a one-man show without the support of the legal system, but that is not appropriate. In a nation with a president-centered system, it is right for the president to boldly carry out reform. The National Assembly began last year, but what reforming has it done? There had also been a public servants personal assets registration law before, but because the presidents were not determined to carry it out, it was never put into practice. The series of reform measures was just and it is excessive criticism that really impedes reform.

Overall, the Kim Yong-sam administration's reform has great significance and should be highly evaluated historically. It is regrettable that the media, opposition parties, politicians not presently in office, and so on, are not supporting the Kim administration's reform as they should and are not leading it into an even deeper reform.

[Chong] Although it is a fact that the Kim administration's reform has contributed to the consolidation of procedural democracy, some criticize that the administration is strengthening an anti-masses stance with its delay in amending labor law, its conglomerate-centered, economic-growth policy, and its opening of the rice market. What do you think of this?

[Chang] From a political standpoint, I think the Kim administration will further the reform. As for economic problems, however, I don't think it will be able to solve them. Hence, it seems that the administration will have a hard time gaining continued public support. Early on, the administration intended to induce economic growth by correcting the conglomerate-based economy, but it changed this to a conglomerate-centered policy. For the solution of economic problems, there must be technological development through guaranteeing business and worker autonomy and educational reform.

Concerning farm and labor issues, it is not right to identify the Kim Yong-sam administration with the military governments of the past. I don't even think the response of the administration to the labor-management dispute in Ulsan this year was a bad one. The struggle of the Ulsan workers is just, but they should have controlled themselves. Only then can there be progress in both the labor movement and the reform. The Labor Law must be revised, but the efforts of those in the labor movement are lacking as well. The nationwide struggle to obstruct the opening of our rice market is significant, but we must consider policy on the assumption of an opening. History is developing in the direction of globalization; the world is becoming a global village.

[Chong] Since the birth of the Kim Yong-sam administration, the influence of the nationalist-democratic movement is receding. How do you evaluate the present stage of the movement and in what direction do you think it must go to overcome this?

[Chang] At present, the opposition is not much supported by the public. People commonly say that this is because it is radical and excessive, but this is not an appropriate analysis of the causes of the problem. The core of the problem is that the opposition is unable to present a good alternative. The goal which has long been presented by the opposition is the withdrawal of the military dictatorship; their ideological alternative was reflected in a socialist society in which ideological workers and farmers were the masters. The former has been achieved; the latter has already been confirmed as being unrealistic. The movement has no goal. It is unable to present alternatives for even everyday problems. If it is to present good alternatives, it must have new ideology. Some in the movement are still clinging to Chuche Thought or Marxist-Leninism. Therefore, they are unable to get public support. Only when they gain a new sense of the developmental stages of world history and develop a new ideology and policy befitting it will they will be able to gain public support. Past socialist ideology is a product of the 20th century. The conservative-progressive concept of former days has already been superseded as a standard of measure. Also, the neo-conservativism represented by Reganism and Thatcherism failed as well. A new, progressive ideology can come out of an accurate analysis of the developmental trends of modern society.

The developmental trends of modern society are toward globalization, toward an information society, and toward a mass society. A recognition of the fact that knowledge is the main dynamic of production demands of us a tremendous change. Technology is important and we must have educational reform. The sovereignty of the masses demands pluralization and decentralization. There must be a change in our fundamental understanding of the developmental trends of world history. Having this sense of world history, a new, progressive ideology should be set up under the following five fundamental principles.

First is the realization of a democracy based on the sovereignty of the masses, the overall dissemination of democracy, and the realization of a communal democracy. Second, an economic system and labor process must be achieved which guarantees the self-realization of labor. Third is the establishment of a social security system with a new philosophy. Welfare policy must be productive and guarantee opportunity. Fourth, we must set up an environmental development strategy capable of symbiosis with nature. Fifth, we must prepare an international policy based on peace, cooperation, and common prosperity. We must escape from past international relationships of domination and exploitation. These five principles are universal worldwide. For our country, we must present plans for the unification of our people.

We must leave behind obligatory, emotional unification plans. Unification policy should be developed within the context of world history and a Northeast-Asian developmental strategy. Unification must be one in which the masses are sovereign. It must be democratic, peaceful, and creative. North and South must change in the process of unification. There must be an easing of tensions and a reduction of military spending.

What is important, together with the creation of a new, progressive vision, is that the form of "opposition" political forces is no longer appropriate. Institutional political forces must encompass the opposition. The opposition too must operate within the framework of the system. Institutional political forces and the opposition must play the game with one set of rules. The opposition must not concentrate on a competition of criticism, but on a competition of alternatives. We must compete with one set of rules and in one arena. We should become a part of the institutional political forces, not remain as an opposition political force. Social movements and political capabilities must be divided and reorganized into institutionalized political forces, citizens-movement forces, and class, mass-movement forces.

The opposition movement must take actions that are politically responsible. It must overcome the fact that it is understood by the masses as critical and constraining movement. It must be acknowledged as a political force responsible to the public. Aiming for political power, it must seriously develop ideology and policy and set out as a professional political force, capable of representing the political intentions of the people. It must form a new political force.

[Chong] Through what channels and with what methods will you form an institutional political force?

[Chang] That is a question to discuss and decide with members of the opposition movement. My personal thoughts are that the opposition is unlikely to build an independent, progressive party in the near future. Channels must be arranged for and preparations made. The opposition must carry out activities for which the public can have sympathy and show support. A minimum unit and framework is needed for this. If this activity works out well, there can be a large-scale expansion of participation by expert intellectuals. The opposition concept is not necessarily limited to nationalist-democratic-movement forces. It should comprehend all of society's talented who, while not of the established political sector, pursue a progressive vision with a positive determination to put theory into practice. For this, there first needs to be traffic direction within the camp of the nationalist-democratic movement.

A cooperative relationship with the Democratic Party [DP] is important for the political growth and development of the opposition. Only when the opposition has secured considerable independence through its activity and power will unity and solidarity with the DP become possible. The greatest objective of my activity, however, is for the opposition to create new alternatives, and so gain public sympathy and support. A new political organization is needed to change the content of opposition activity. Also, we have to go fundamentally in the direction of a political party. The strategy of creating a new party is efficient, whether in working out our relationship with the DP or for promoting a reorganization of politics. We will create a new political organization directed toward a new and progressive political party. This is right in principle, but it is also tactically desirable.

[Chong] Evaluations of PP activity have been unfavorable and attempts to form an independent, progressive

party are repeatedly failing in the arena of real politics, how will you get your forces together?
[Chang] A common evaluation of the PP's failure is that the people will not yet support a progressive party. I do not agree with this evaluation. It was because of our shortcomings that we couldn't get support. The opinion that we were not supported because the political level of the public is low is erroneous. Antiquated progressivism won't work. We must reconsider it and give it new content. Lacking political ability, we were unable to inform the public of the true content of the PP. Another shortcoming was the severe friction within the PP. We failed because of our own shortcomings and those of the movement and PP. The public does have a problem. It is regional enmity.

Things will change a great deal in the future. Without a new progressive ideology, we cannot overcome economic problems, political distrust, and so on. Independently, a general consensus is being formed that the opposition must not continue in its present form. We can form ranks different from those of yesterday's PP.

[Chong] How are you going to overcome obstacles, such as the general perception that it would be difficult to create an independent party?
[Chang] In carrying out political party activities, the question of activity funding is also difficult. In the future, Labor Union Law Article 12 must be revised and the masses must participate in political activity. The most central problem is that we must present epoch-making alternatives and policy with which the people can sympathize.

[Chong] What do you think of the question of solidarity among the Popular Political Alliance [Minjung Chongchi Yonhap], which decided on the creation of a progressive political party, the Committee for the Promotion of a Progressive Political Party [Chinbo Chongdang Chujin Uiwonhoe], and others?
[Chang] I believe solidarity with forces espousing socialist ideology unlikely.

[Chong] What about solidarity with Chonguk Moim [National Gathering] president Kim Kun-tae, who is discussing the construction of a new political organization?
[Chang] In political ideology and policy, I believe that Kim Kun-tae and I think the same. If there is a difference, it is only the issue of an independent party. I believe it important for the opposition to establish itself as a political force distinct from the established political sector, as a new, progressive political force capable of squarely participating in a competition of visions with neo-conservativism. I plan to work with Kim Kun-tae.

[Chong] What do you think of the Yi Son-sil spy ring incident?
[Chang] The Agency for National Security Planning announced that Yi Son-sil was a North Korean spy. I had no idea Yi was a spy. I cannot understand this incident at all. The PP tends to be anti-Chuche Thought. I don't know how North Korea intended to approach us. The claim that North Korea did it is unbelievable and even if North Korea did it, I think it was to stop exchange between the North and South. Personally, I feel that my treatment was completely unfair. But as a main PP executive, I regret that I was unable to stop Yi Son-sil beforehand and I regret causing concern to the public and to persons who have cared for the PP.

Trial Service of Wireless Data Transfer Begins

SK1003010694 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 10 Mar 94 p 3

[Text] The nation's principal data network operator yesterday announced a trial service of new technology that will ultimately let customers send data through the air as easily as through phone lines. The announcement by Dacom kicks off a race for a market share among foreign and domestic equipment makers, as all major carriers are scurrying to tap the latest market service, known collectively as wireless data transfer.

The idea of wireless data transfer is to use radio waves to free traveling executives and other people on the go from having to plug laptop computers and other data devices into telephone lines.

"This marks our major initiative in the wireless data market as we expect a three-way race with Korea Mobile Telecom and Korea Telecom," said Dacom spokesman Yi Song-ki.

Dacom is installing base stations, or radio transmitters, to launch the trial service in a 5-km radius area around its Yongsan headquarters in Seoul by August. It plans another trial service in Taedok Science Town near Taejon.

Dacom's system, modeled after the Modacom service of Germany's Deutsche Bundes Post-Telecom, uses a wireless packet-switched messaging technique. A tall powerful radio transmitter sends data in short bursts known as packets. Each packet holds about three- quarters of a page of text (about 128 English words). Longer transmissions are broken up and reassembled at the receiving end.

"The real advantage of our system is that we can rapidly establish a nationwide network through connections to our existing (wired packet-switched) Dacom Network Service," said Yi Un-tae, a manager at Dacom's technology development department.

"It will allow business people carrying easy-to-use wireless devices to move into new, unexpected places," he said. Dacom expects to offer a commercial service by the latter half of next year.

Just as Dacom is trying to steal the thunder in the domestic wireless industry, cellular monopoly holder Korea Mobile Telecom plans to launch its own digital messaging system by June, which would provide packet-switched data over its existing cellular channels.

Korea Telecom, the nation's state-owned public telephone operator, is working on its own wireless data system, officials said.

Although these networks are to operate in the same general radio- frequency range of 800 megahertz, their technological modes are different, so they require their own terminals.

Dacom customers would have to buy one of Motorola's palm-size messaging device InfoTac or bigger and higher-capacity PDT-220 terminals. The prices are high: 2.15 million won for an InforTac terminal and 5.6 million won for a PDT-220.

A Korea Mobile Telecom subscriber would have to buy a $1,000 wireless modem, the size of a cigarette box with a small protruding antenna, that snaps onto a notebook computer and allows data files to be sent over cellular telephone networks.

Officials expect the price of terminals to drop sharply as more and more customers sign on. No one is sure how big the market will be. The industry says there will be about 10,000 subscribers by the end of next year. They foresee that number burgeoning to 100,000 to 500,000 by the end of the decade.

Dacom says one advantage of its system is that it is well tested in the market, while Korea Mobile Telecom's rival Cellular Digital Packet Data system is still an emerging service overseas.

Two public radio frequency systems similar to Dacom's are in operation in the United States: Ardis, a joint venture between Motorola Inc. and the International Business Machines Corp., and Ram Mobile Data, a partnership of RAM Broadcasting and BellSouth.

But Dacom says its system, with a carrying capacity of 19,200 bits of information per second, is much faster than Ardis' 4,800 bits and Ram's 8,000 bits.

Korea Mobile Telecom's CDPD system, which also uses the clearer and faster digital format of ones and zeros of computer code boasts the same transmission capacity as that of Dacom. It would allow a file containing a page and a half of text to be sent in one second.

Although wireless data is new and virtually unheard of here, companies hope it will thrive for some of the same reasons that have helped the domestic cellular industry attract half a million subscribers in its first nine years: it provides vital mobility to key people.

Here are some of the possibilities: Credit card companies would use wireless networks to authorize credit in places where a dial-up (wired) service is unavailable (taxi drivers, for example, would accept credit cards). Postal couriers would use hand-held terminals and a wireless network to accept signatures written with an electronic pen and to notify the company's package-tracking center.

Delivery services and car rental companies would depend on wireless networks to keep track of their packages or vehicles. A small set-top box on a vending machine would send out wireless messages telling its owner that certain products are out of stock. Airline ticket agents would come out from behind the counter to confirm tickets and assign seats for passengers standing in line at airports. Department stores would exchange price lists and sales figures instantly, making point-of-sale management possible. Police can check, on the spot, whether a number plate is on the wanted list in a computerized data base.

The wireless data transfer is the telecommunication industry's latest whispered promise that soon, and very soon, it will unite telephones and computers into a single wireless go-anywhere device.

Burma

Troops 'Poised' for Attack on Mon Headquarters

BK1003084294 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 10 Mar 94 p 9

[Text] Kanchanaburi—The New Mon State Party [NMSP] headquarters, on the Thai-Burmese border opposite Sangkhla Buri District of this western province, could be attacked any day now by Burmese army troops, an NMSP source said yesterday.

The source told the BANGKOK POST that two Burmese army battalions of about 800 soldiers had set up positions near the NMSP headquarters at Baho and appeared poised for an attack.

The 104th and 433rd Battalions from Tavoy township had been located near Ale Sakan village, only about 30 kilometres south of the NMSP headquarters.

The two infantry battalions are believed to be poised for an attack, the source said.

The NMSP headquarters is located about 50 kilometres south of the Three Pagoda Pass.

The evacuation of Mon ethnic refugees from Lo Loe Camp in Sangkhla Buri District to a new camp at Hlakhani in Burma has continued. About 300 Mon refugees were moved to the new camp yesterday.

About 8,000 Mon refugees had been housed at Loh Loe camp, and about 5,000 of them have been moved to the new camp since last month.

The Mon believe that Thailand wants to please Burma so that in cooperation with the Petroleum Authority of Thailand they can lay a gas pipeline from the coastal town of Amherst in Burma to Kanchanaburi Province.

Rebel Opposes ASEAN Invitation for Burma

BK0803163694 Oslo Democratic Voice of Burma in Burmese 1430 GMT 8 Mar 94

[Text] Dear Listeners: General Saw Bo Mya, chairman of the Democratic Alliance of Burma, DAB, in his letter to Thai Prime Minister Chaun Likphai noted that the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC] military regime should not be invited to attend the forthcoming annual ASEAN ministerial meeting.

In the DAB declaration, dated 4 March, Gen. Saw Bo Mya cited SLORC's inability to implement basic human rights and democracy in Burma and looking at SLORC's present activities it clearly indicates their intention to cling on to power through the use of military force. At present, SLORC does not deserve to be invited to the annual ASEAN ministerial meeting.

The letter also noted ASEAN need to wait-and-see the improvements in SLORC's records before considering such an invitation.

It has been learned that Gen. Saw Bo Mya sent similar letters to other ASEAN members. The annual ASEAN ministerial meeting will be held in Bangkok, Thailand, in July. The Thai Government intends to invite the SLORC military regime as guest to the meeting.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Commentary Views U.S.-Japan Trade Dispute

BK1003103994 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0800 GMT 10 Mar 94

[Station commentary]

[Text] The multilateral open and free global market may yet take some time to take off the ground. The world is watching with growing concern the escalating trade confrontation between the United States and Japan.

Last Thursday President Bill Clinton dropped a bombshell when he announced that his administration was reviving the Super 301 Trade Sanctions Authority in an effort to force Japan to buy more U.S. goods. The U.S. move follows the failure of Clinton and Japanese Premier Hosokawa at the Washington summit exactly a month ago to resolve the two country's long-standing economic differences. Though it is true that the revival of the Super 301 law does not automatically lead to sanctions, tensions are running high among economic circle that the likelihood of a U.S. imposition of sanctions, however remote it may be, cannot be precluded. And if the Japanese decide to retaliate, there is a possibility of a trade war between the world's two biggest economies. Of course both sides have said that they want to prevent such a war but the way they have been accusing and criticizing each other over trade issues places an element of doubt in the minds of economic analysts around the globe.

The key point of dispute between the U.S. and Japan is the latest huge trade surplus of more than 130 billion U.S. dollars. Washington is determined to force a cut in this figure. It has demanded that Tokyo states numerical target in opening up the Japanese markets to more imports. Hosokawa has refused to bow to this demand which he says (?amounts to many strings) and increased U.S. protectionism. While the confrontation between the economic giants continues, there is increasing anxiety among the member nations of GATT over the effect the present squabble will have or prospect for an easing of world trade problem.

It took GATT seven long years to conclude the Uruguay Round of trade negotiations last December. But the new outbreak of bilateral trade tension is putting the achievements of the Uruguay Round to detach even before they are fully operational. The round's final accord liberalizing trade in goods and services among 118 countries is due to be formerly signed at the meeting of foreign and trade ministers in Morocco in the middle of next month. The meeting will also discuss the agenda for further efforts to broaden world trade and endorse the conversion on the 45-year-old GATT into a new and more powerful World Trade Organization, WTO. This body is scheduled to be created in the first half of 1995.

Under the above scenario, if big powers seek to resolve issues outside the multilateral system by trying to steer straight and not leave market forces to operate, everyone, both developed and developing nations, is bound to suffer. A trade war must be averted at all costs. It is up to the U.S. and Japan to resume negotiations to sort out their differences and arrive at sensible solution.

Editor Urged To Quit for 'Straining' UK Ties

BK0803150294 Kuala Lumpur Radio Malaysia Network in Malay 1300 GMT 8 Mar 94

[Text] The UMNO [United Nalays National Organization] Youth Movement has urged Andrew Neil, chief editor of the SUNDAY TIMES, to resign for straining relations between Malaysia and Britain and causing British companies to incur huge losses as they are no longer allowed to bid for Malaysian Government contracts. Tan Sri Haji Abdul Rahim Tamby Chik, chairman of the UMNO Youth Movement, said it would be good for the SUNDAY TIMES to promise not to publish baseless and untrue reports about Malaysia to ensure that the economic interests of the two nations are maintained. In a statement issued in Melaka, the movement also severely criticized the provocative attitude of the SUNDAY TIMES, which urged the British Government to retaliate against Malaysia by freezing payments to the Pergau hydroelectric plant project. Malaysia should be prepared for any eventuality, in case the British Government is really forced to bow to the wishes and pressure of the SUNDAY TIMES which led to the Malaysian Government's decision not to award government contracts to British companies.

Minister on UK Efforts To Settle Dispute

BK0903134194 Kuala Lumpur Radio Malaysia Network in Malay 1300 GMT 9 Mar 94

[Text] Defense Minister Datuk Sri Mohamed Najib Tun Razak says the British Government is seeking ways to settle a dispute between the Malaysian Government and certain circles in the British press. Speaking to reporters in the ministry after attending the weekly cabinet meeting today, he said the British step is a good sign, but the government decided not to lift the ban on awarding new government contracts to British companies.

Britain is Malaysia's traditional arms supplier, particularly main defense systems and equipment such as warships and aircraft. Since 1988, Malaysia has bought defense systems and arms worth over 4 billion ringgit from Britain, while two huge military projects involving British companies have yet to start.

Companies Urged To Move to Danang EPZ

BK0903101994 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0600 GMT 9 Mar 94

[Text] Malaysian labor-intensive companies have been urged to consider relocating their operations to the Malaysian-initiated export processing zone, or EPZ, to be set up in Danang, Vietnam. The sales launch of the EPZ in Danang with EPZ MASDA joint venture cooperation as developer, will be held on the 22d of this month. EPZ MASDA chairman, Datuk Michael Chen told a news conference in Kuala Lumpur that labor-intensive companies, especially those in the garment and shoe manufacturing businesses, should reconsider relocating to the EPZ.

EPZ MASDA is a joint venture between Malaysian South-South Corporation Limited and Quang Nam-Da Nang Export Processing Zone Development Corporation. The EPZ is the brainchild of both the prime ministers of Vietnam and Malaysia—the result of Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir's visit to Hanoi in 1992.

Cambodia

King's Plea Delays Government Attack on Pailin

BK1003063894 Hong Kong AFP in English 0609 GMT 10 Mar 94

[By Jim Hatton]

[Excerpts] PHNOM PENH, March 10 (AFP)—Government troops are in position to attack Pailin, the last Khmer Rouge stronghold, but have delayed the assault because of an emotional appeal for peace by King Norodom Sihanouk, a military spokesman said Thursday. "Our forces are based at the same positions of Sala Krau, 10 kilometers (six miles) north of Pailin, and Samiot, 20 kilometers (12 miles) south of Pailin, and along Road 10," General Chum Chheang told AFP.

"We did not move our forces up because of the king's appeal recently that we and the NADK (Khmer Rouge) must stop fighting. So our forces are waiting for the order from the government," the general said in Phnom Penh. "I strongly believe that the Royal Cambodian Armed Forces have sufficient capability to capture Pailin if there is the order from the government," he added. [passage omitted]

Khieu Samphan, the nominal leader of the Marxist Khmer Rouge, issued a statement from his jungle base on Tuesday, accepting the monarch's proposal. [passage omitted]

But Chum Chheang cast doubt on Khieu Samphan's statement. The Khmer Rouge leader "never rejects the king's proposals, but he always practices the opposite," Chum Chheang said. "He always says this and does the other way."

Cambodian forces began first serious moves to take Pailin, some 300 kilometers (185 miles) northwest of Phnom Penh, last Saturday when they captured Sala Krau and Samlot and began advancing along Road 10.

In addition to the three-pronged assault, an elite unit of 200 paratroops was stationed to the west of Pailin to cut off any retreat of the Khmer Rouge across the border with Thailand, some 10 kilometers (six miles) away. [passage omitted]

There had been unconfirmed reports that government forces had begun shelling Pailin with long range artillery, but Chum Chheang denied this. "I did not receive any report from the front line as saying government troops have started shelling," he said.

The general also denied Khmer Rouge accusations that the Cambodian government would buy guns with the money provided by the International Conference on the Reconstruction of Cambodia, which began Thursday in Tokyo. "This is not true," Chum Chheang said. "We can not take development aid to buy guns." [passage omitted]

NADK Spokesman Rejects 8 Mar AFP Report

BK1003054094 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 9 Mar 94

["Rejection" issued by the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea spokesman on 9 March—place not given]

[Text] I. On 8 March, AFP fabricated a deceptive report saying that the invading forces of the Vietnamese communist puppets and the two-headed government had captured certain areas in the Pailin region. The National Army of Democratic Kampuchea [NADK] spokesman totally rejects this false report, which is based on the darkest and most unscrupulous political motives.

II. The Vietnamese communists and the Western alliance—with France as the leading cat's paw—are using the invading forces of their Vietnamese communist puppet lackeys and the two-headed government to attack the people and the NADK resistance in Pailin in order to allow the Vietnamese communists to swallow the Cambodian race completely and allow the alliance to incorporate Cambodia into its arena. AFP—France's propaganda apparatus—has stepped to the forefront by playing an active role in fabricating deceptive propaganda in its psychological war.

The general public is aware that ever since the creation of the two-headed government, France has urged other countries to assist the Vietnamese communists and their puppets and become directly involved in establishing [as heard] the two-headed government, so as to employ the latter in attacking the Cambodian nation and people and the NADK resistance in the political, military, economic, and propaganda fields. France has carried out these actions with the dream of furthering its neocolonialism in Cambodia.

III. The Vietnamese communists and the alliance have made all- out efforts to prod the Vietnamese communist invaders and the two-headed government in their military campaign against the people and the NADK resistance in Pailin in order to cover their most shameful and serious defeat on the Anlung Veng battlefield. So far, though, the invading forces are not even close to Pailin; much less having captured this or that area in the region. This is why their French masters have strived to invent this deceptive story—to prevent their lackeys from being perceived as too inferior.

IV. Based on past experience as well as recent experiences on the Anlung Veng battlefield, the invading forces of the Vietnamese communist puppets and the two-headed government—mercenaries that are inflaming the war in accordance with the strategy of the Vietnamese communists and the alliance to oppose the king, national reconciliation, peace, and the Cambodian nation and people—can never prevail over the national forces, the people, or the NADK resistance. They will certainly be defeated, dispersed, and decimated. As for the foreign warmongers, they will be severely condemned by the Cambodian nation and people, no matter what.

If France continues to collude with the Vietnamese communists to inflame the war, which is meant to do away with the Cambodian race, the Cambodian nation and people and the Cambodian national resistance forces will oppose and condemn it. On the other hand, if France joins the king and the Cambodian nation and people and does whatever it can to achieve national reconciliation, national unity, and peace in Cambodia in accordance with the king's five-point policy, the Cambodian nation and people and the Cambodian national resistance forces will support it.

[Dated] 9 March 1994
[Signed] The NADK spokesman

NADK Spokesman Denies Use of Thai Territory

BK1003070694 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 9 Mar 94

["Rejection" issued by the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea spokesman on 9 March—place not given]

[Text] I. On 7 March, the Hanoi Vietnamese communists ordered their lackey puppets in the two-headed government to claim once again that the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea [NADK] had used Thai territory to defeat them on the Anlung Veng battlefield. This is a dirty and base accusation; no one except the notoriously cunning Vietnamese communists could think of playing the trick of the thief shouting: Stop thief!

II. For what purpose did the Vietnamese communists order their puppets to level this accusation? It was based on the following:

1. Covering their most shameful and severe defeat on the Anlung Veng battlefield. The Vietnamese communists and their alliance have claimed various unreasonable pretexts to fool their lackeys into further inflaming the war to serve their strategic policies.

2. Covering the shipment of Vietnamese forces and armaments to Cambodia in accordance with what the Vietnamese communists call Cambodian-Vietnamese military cooperation, which they agreed upon with the puppet Chea Sim in Hanoi in early March. The Vietnamese communists have painstakingly implemented the strategy and tactics of launching attacks in western Cambodia and shipping Vietnamese men and women to the eastern part of the country.

3. The Party of Democratic Kampuchea [PDK] and the NADK have always respected and will always respect the Kingdom of Thailand's sovereignty and territorial integrity. They have never done anything that affects the Royal Thai Government or the Thai people. The PDK and the entire Cambodian nation and people want to coexist peacefully with all neighboring countries, especially Thailand and the Thai people, who respect other countries' sovereignty and territorial integrity. The Thais are different from the Vietnamese communist puppets and the two-headed government, who—relying on the Vietnamese communists and the Western alliance—have implemented the policy of further inflaming the war, both inside and outside the country, and then denounced other people without any sense of responsibility. [Dated] 9 March 1994 [Signed] The NADK spokesman

Radio Reports Villagers Kill Government General

BK1003072694 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 9 Mar 94

[Text] On 25 February, inhabitants at Ap Village in Kang Meas District of Kompong Cham Province intercepted a group of Vietnamese communist puppet troops led by some generals and senior officers, who were rounding up the people's husbands and children to serve as soldiers and die in their place. The people killed six of them, including a general and a senior officer. We also seized two pistols and four AK rifles.

And on 24 February, people and village guards ambushed a group of Vietnamese communist puppet troops from Chamka Leu District in Kompong Cham Province. The troops attempted to terrorize and massacre the people and plunder their property at Phkai Meas Village in the district. Four enemy soldiers were killed and eight wounded. We also seized a field radio and some documents.

Chea Sim on Visit to Laos, SRV, Thailand

BK1003091694 Phnom Penh National Radio of Cambodia Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 9 Mar 94

[Interview with Chea Sim, National Assembly chairman and acting head of state, by an unidentified AKP correspondent; place, date not given—read by announcer]

[Text] [Correspondent] Recently, a high-ranking Kingdom of Cambodia National Assembly delegation headed by Your Eminence paid an official friendship visit to the SRV, the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], and the Kingdom of Thailand. What was the outcome of these visits? How do you evaluate them?

[Chea Sim] First of all, let me express my most sincere thanks to you, the AKP special correspondent, for giving me a chance to inform the people of the outcome of this trip. It can be summed up in these words: Our delegation's visit to these three friendly countries was certainly very fruitful. Although it was the first of its kind, this trip made major and important contributions. First, it strengthened and expanded the bonds of friendship and mutual cooperation between our state and people and the states and peoples of Vietnam, Laos, and Thailand who share our common borders. Second, it opened a bridge of excellent cooperation between our legislative organ and those of the three neighboring countries. Third, it elevated our national prestige in the region and on the international stage.

As the messenger of the Cambodian people and a contributor to the defense and advancement of our nation's superior interests, our delegation did its best to accomplish everything with a high sense of responsibility in order to promote and encourage new developments in Cambodia's relationship with its neighbors in a new form and in line with the new regional and international trends. In this context, the talks and negotiations we conducted with the top leaders of the three countries enabled our delegation to hold consultations and exchange views in greater depth concerning all aspects of our bilateral relations, both present and future, which must proceed in a new and progressive form.

Our delegation sought to acquire a firm foundation capable of guaranteeing the durable interests of our country. All of these top leaders unanimously agreed that the existing traditional relations of friendship and mutual cooperation between our states and peoples must be further strengthened and expanded; good neighborliness is an important factor in the development of each country; mutual understanding, respect, and trust and a sense of solidarity must be based on respect for each nation's independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity, and right to self-determination; and bilateral cooperation must be implemented on the basis of the principles of equality and reciprocal benefit.

As for problems that remain to be settled, we agreed that we will work jointly to solve them peacefully. This is the only good way to guarantee that the sense of good neighborliness will last.

Because of their geographical proximity to Cambodia, the three countries expressed their wish to cooperate with and assist Cambodia in its national rehabilitation on the basis of the principle of mutual help. This is an excellent fundamental line that will guide our future relationships.

At the same time, the top Vietnamese, Lao, and Thai leaders all affirmed their resolute support for peace and national reconciliation in Cambodia. They consider this to be not only an important factor for the stability and development of each country, but also a contribution to the strengthening of regional and international stability, friendship, and cooperation.

These prominent dignitaries reemphasized their respective countries' resolute and unwavering support for the Royal Government of Cambodia—headed by His Royal Highness Prince Krompreah Norodom Ranariddh as first prime minister and Samdech Hun Sen as second prime minister—both in the rehabilitation and reconstruction of Cambodia and in the realization of Cambodia's national reconciliation.

The Vietnamese, Lao, and Thai leaders expressed their distinguished respects for His Majesty King Norodom Sihanouk Varaman, our venerated monarch, and solemnly wished him a prompt recovery so that he could pursue his noble and historic royal crusade.

It should be noted that during our visit to these three countries, our delegation was accorded the great honor of meeting with all the top leaders of each country. For instance, in the SRV our delegation met with His Excellency [H.E.] President Le Duc Anh; H.E. Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet; H.E. National Assembly Chairman Nong Duc Manh; and H.E. Do Muoi, secretary general of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee. In the LPDR we met with H.E. President Nouhak Phoumsavan, H.E. Prime Minister Khamtai Siphandon, and H.E. National Assembly Chairman Saman Vignaket. In the Kingdom of Thailand, we met with H.E. Prime Minister Chuan Likphai; H.E. Dr. Marut Bunnak, chairman of the National Assembly; and H.E. Senate Chairman Michai Ruchuphan. Even better, our delegation was graciously accorded an audience with His Majesty King Phumiphon Adunyadet of the Kingdom of Thailand at the royal palace in Bangkok.

Aside from discussing bilateral relations, our delegation learned about and exchanged experiences on parliamentary work and other issues of importance to our country's development, such as agriculture, irrigation, industry, electricity, education, financial systems, and the market economy.

Our delegation also visited industrial estates, construction projects, bridges, and hydroelectric dams. It was an important opportunity for members of the delegation and of the nine National Assembly commissions to gain a better understanding and experience for future use in the service of the nation and people.

Concerning the relationship between our National Assembly and the assemblies of the three friendly countries, we agreed to expand mutual contact through exchanges of delegations at the top level and at the level of committees, representatives, and house secretariats. We exchanged documents to help promote the spirit of friendship, mutual understanding, and cooperation between our states and peoples.

Based on this visit, we can draw the conclusion that the foundation of our National Assembly-to-National Assembly relationships has already been established.

It should be noted that the legislative organ of each host country accorded our delegation a great honor by arranging an excellent reception for us at a high protocol level. This clearly shows the common desire and wish for friendship and good neighborliness. Although the visit to each of these countries was brief, each had profound political significance and was replete with a great feeling of friendship and mutual regard.

Indonesia

Suharto Meets With Cuban Foreign Minister

BK1003100794 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0600 GMT 10 Mar 94

[Excerpt] President Suharto received a courtesy call from visiting Cuban Foreign Minister Roberto Robaina, who was accompanied by Foreign Minister Ali Alatas. During the occasion, Robaina conveyed Cuban President Fidel Castro's written message to President Suharto.

According to Alatas, the written message, among other things, clarified the itinerary of the minister's visit to Indonesia and other countries such as Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia and Malaysia.

During the meeting, Suharto briefed his guest on Indonesia's development program. On bilateral relations, Suharto said the Indonesian Government observes the principles of mutual respect of sovereignty, territorial integrity and non-interference in internal affairs. He said bilateral cooperation based on mutual benefit could be developed through a desirable manner.

Meanwhile, in his clarification to newsmen, Robaina said that cooperation between the two countries will be upgraded. As such, it would be necessary to study sectors which need to be developed.

Robaina said the Cuban Government was satisfied with Indonesia's leadership as chairman of the Nonaligned Movement. [passage omitted]

Alatas Regrets Journalists' Visit to Israel

BK1003085094 Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 4 Mar 94 p 15

[Text] Jakarta, KOMPAS—Foreign Minister Ali Alatas said the recent visit by four Indonesian journalists to Israel is a source of much regret. The action was clearly contradictory to Indonesian foreign policy. The visit was premature and could send the wrong signals about Indonesia's diplomatic position toward the Middle East in general, and the country's endorsement of the Palestinian struggle in particular.

The minister said this when he received three of the four journalists at the Foreign Ministry office in Pejambon, Jakarta on Thursday, 3 March. The three journalists were from MEDIA INDONESIA, INDONESIAN BUSINESS WEEKLY, and EKSEKUTIF. The REPUBLIKA journalist was not present because he is still abroad.

As disclosed by the Foreign Ministry Directorate of Information on the afternoon of Thursday, 3 March, the three journalists clarified their reasoning and the background of their visit to Israel. They admitted that the Israeli Government hosted their stay, but they had to pay their own air fares.

Minister Alatas said that although their visit to Israel might be understandable from a journalistic point of view, on the other hand, it could have sensitive political implications. The visit was premature, and it is feared that Israel might take advantage of it to champion its interests, particularly in lieu of the agreement on the declaration of principles for setting up a provisional Palestinian government.

He said: "We welcome the declaration, but we should not be proceeding too far ahead or assuming that we will move rapidly toward a process of opening diplomatic relations. The journey is still a long way from finished, and any hasty moves could backfire on Indonesia and damage its interests."

Indonesia, as the most populous Muslim nation, is seen as having a major and important role in dealing with any particular international issue that could easily influence other nations. The foreign minister said: "Because of Indonesia's reputation, we can only change our position after a very cautious evaluation."

Minister on Succession, Liberal Democracy

BK1003103194 Jakarta THE JAKARTA POST in English 4 Mar 94 p 2

[Text] Jakarta (JP)—The Armed Forces (ABRI) must be prepared to ensure a smooth transfer of power in the national leadership, Minister of Defense and Security Edi Sudrajat said. Edi told a military seminar on Wednesday that the national leadership succession will be one of the most critical issues facing the nation in the coming years, along with democracy and human rights.

ABRI's task will be to ensure that the transfer of power takes place in a constitutional manner, said Edi, a retired army general who headed ABRI for a brief period last year. This is the nearest admission by the military regarding the likelihood that President Suharto will relinquish power at the end of this, his sixth five year term in office, in 1998.

The ruling political organization Golkar [Functional Group] has declined to be drawn into the succession debate, saying that it was unethical, preferring to leave it until nearer the time of the next election in 1998.

Edi's statement followed remarks made by the incumbent himself that he had no intention of remaining president for life and that he would know when to step aside. Suharto is now 72 years old. Edi also made the point in his speech on Wednesday. "Whatever happens, the national leadership succession process must get underway because the time has come for that." He expressed appreciation for Suharto's long service to the country, but pointed out that succession was inevitable because nobody could hold the post forever.

The remarks were made during a gathering of middle and senior ranking ABRI officers organized by the Army's Strategic Reserves Command, an elite force once headed by Suharto. The meeting was held to mark the command's 33rd anniversary.

Edi said in his speech that ABRI must continue to attempt to define its position and role in the nation, especially to ensure the success of the next 25-year long term development which begins on April 1. "ABRI always stands above the interests of all social, ethnic and religious groups," he said. "Its chief task is to maintain national unity and cohesion and it must fight for the interests of the people."

The military must play an active role in national development and set a positive example for the rest of society, he said. He warned that the problems facing the nation will become even more complicated in the coming years, but cautioned the military to remain loyal to its oath and motto. He also said that ABRI must continue to be loyal to the state ideology Pancasila and the 1945 Constitution. History has shown ABRI's important role in the nation's life and this will remain true in the future, he added.

The minister also discussed the allegation that certain groups in society now seek to replace Pancasila with other ideologies, notably liberalism.

"We have to remain vigilant. History has shown that liberal democracy, which Indonesia adopted in the early 1950s, was doomed to failure," he said. "It does not fit with the nation's identity." He did not specifically name the groups but said that vocal opposition exists to the security approach to development and ABRI's role in politics. Edi said the government has no intention of loosening its security grip in the coming years because such an approach was still necessary to ensure development, economic growth and a more equitable distribution of income. The aversion of some people to security baffled him, he said, stressing that people are concerned with security every day.

Timorese Resistance Hopes for Gusmao Release

LD0903163594 Lisbon RDP Antena 1 Radio Network in Portuguese 1200 GMT 9 Mar 94

[Text] Today in Geneva, the UN Human Rights Commission heard the agreed declaration on East Timor. Indonesia agreed to take measures to release Timorese political prisoners soon and to allow special rapporteurs access to East Timor. We have Ramos Horta [resistance representative abroad] live from Geneva.

[Unidentified correspondent] Are you satisfied with the agreed declaration?

[Horta] I am very pleased, obviously, although, as in all situations, an agreed declaration means concessions from both sides. The declaration does not condemn Indonesia for human rights violations in East Timor, but on the other hand, at the moment, it forces it to invite a special rapporteur—responsible for investigating summary executions—to visit Timor in June. It is also hoped that the rapporteur investigating torture and the working group for disappearances will visit before the end of the year.

[Correspondent] Does this declaration open the door for the release of political prisoners, as Indonesia has signed?

[Horta] I think so, I think so.

[Correspondent] Including Xanana [jailed Timorese resistance leader]?

[Horta] Yes, I believe so. It includes Xanana and other prisoners. I think that Indonesia will have to bring to the Geneva negotiations in May some concrete confidence-building measures. Indonesia will not be able to turn up empty-handed again, as it did in New York and Rome. Yesterday, I spoke on the phone to the UN secretary general's representative, who is mentioned in the resolution, and I said that now the secretary general also has the moral obligation of pressuring Indonesia into coming to the May negotiations with some concrete steps.

[Correspondent] Can I assume that you are optimistic that Xanana Gusmao will be released soon?

[Horta] Well, I am not optimistic or pessimistic. I hope that Xanana Gusmao and others will be released, because it is also in Indonesia's interest. There is a lot of pressure in Indonesia on Suharto not to give in regarding Xanana Gusmao's release, but Indonesia's international interests, its image abroad would improve a great deal if President Suharto were to make such a gesture.

Laos

Nouhak Phoumsavan Receives Cambodia's Chea Sim

BK0803013594 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 7 Mar 94

[Text] At 1200 on 5 March, His Excellency [H.E.] Nouhak Phoumsavan, president of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], received a courtesy call from Samdech Chea Sim, chairman of the Kingdom of Cambodia National Assembly, at Hokham Hall in the capital of Vientiane on the occasion of the Cambodian's official friendship visit to the LPDR.

Their conversation took place in an atmosphere of intimacy and mutual understanding. H.E. Nouhak Phoumsavan hailed the high-level Kingdom of Cambodia National Assembly delegation and extended his warm welcome. H.E. Nouhak Phoumsavan and Samdech Chea Sim highly assessed the traditional relations of friendship between the Lao and Cambodian peoples. H.E. Nouhak Phoumsavan stressed that the intimate solidarity and affection between the Lao and Cambodian peoples represent fraternal, neighborly, and comradely ties nurtured by sharing weal and woe ever since ancient times.

On the same occasion, Samdech Chea Sim expressed his full appreciation for and satisfaction with the warm welcome accorded by H.E. Nouhak Phoumsavan. He highly valued the continuously increasing and developing relations of friendship, cooperation, and assistance between the two states and peoples.

Chea Sim Concludes Visit

BK0803040294 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 7 Mar 94

[Text] The friendship visit to the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] by a high-level Kingdom of Cambodia National Assembly delegation headed by Chairman Samdech Chea Sim, which began on 5 March, ended with brilliant success this morning. Samdech Chea Sim and his delegation then left Vientiane by special plane for Bangkok to pay an official friendship visit to the Kingdom of Thailand.

On 6 March, Samdech Chea Sim visited many production establishments; the construction site of the Mekong Friendship Bridge; and Vientiane Province, where he was welcomed by His Excellency [H.E.] Governor Mounkeo Olaboun and his staff. During its visit to Vientiane Province, the delegation also toured the Nam Ngum Dam hydropower plant.

In the evening, Samdech Chea Sim granted an audience at the guest house to representatives of the Laos-Cambodia Friendship Association led by Chairman Son Khamvanvongsa. During their conversation, the two discussed ways to consolidate and strengthen the friendly relations between Laos and Cambodia, both now and in the future.

Before the delegation left for Wattai Airport, a grand official ceremony was held at the office of the National Assembly in the capital, Vientiane. It was attended by H.E. Saman Vi-gnaket and H.E. Khambou Sounisai, chairman and vice chairman of the LPDR National Assembly, and several high-level cadres from various relevant services. Mak Nguon-li, charge d'affaires ad interim at the Embassy of the Kingdom of Cambodia, and embassy staff members were also on hand to see off the delegation.

Pact on Legal Cooperation Signed With Australia

BK0903102894 Vientiane KPL in English 0909 GMT 9 Mar 94

[Text] Vientiane, March 9 (KPL)—The Ministry of Justice of Lao PDR [People's Democratic Republic] and the Australian Attorney General's Department signed on 8 March 1994 a memorandum of understanding on cooperation in legal affairs, according to a press release by the Australian embassy here.

The document was signed by Somlit Chanthachak, deputy minister of justice, and Alan Rose, secretary of the Australian Attorney General's Department. It spelled out both sides' intention to consolidate their bilateral relations and cooperation. Under the agreement Australia will provide assistance to the school of laws of the Ministry of Justice.

On the same occasion, Alan Rose presented law texts on different subjects, including environmental protection, business, commerce and others to the Lao Ministry of Justice.

Justice Minister Kham-ouan Boupha and Australian Ambassador to Laos Michael Mann witnessed the signing of this document.

While in Laos, Alan Rose held talks with a number of Lao ministers, with an emphasis on possibilities of cooperation in legal affairs between the two countries. He left here yesterday ending his five-day working visit to Laos. He also spent a short visit to Luang Prabang Province.

Saman Vi-gnaket on Security, Development

BK1003102294 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0500 GMT 9 Mar 94

[Speech by National Assembly Chairman Saman Vi-gnaket at the opening ceremony of the third ordinary session of the Third National Assembly in Vientiane on 9 March—recorded]

[Text] Today, the third ordinary session of our Third National Assembly is convened to discuss and endorse a number of important, urgent issues. The session is being held after the date stipulated in the National Assembly law, because there were certain urgent, significant tasks that we had to settle during the period that the session was expected to be convened. Our session is now being held in an atmosphere in which the international and regional situations have continued to develop in the manner which is both favorable and unfavorable to the implementation of the two strategic tasks and the restructuring line of our party and state.

As the situations have developed, various hostile powers have not abandoned their intentions of effecting change through peaceful means and interfering in the internal affairs of various countries with a view to turning the entire world into their orbit. The tension and conflicts between peoples of different nationalities, origins, and religions in certain countries and regions have continued. Various nations, particularly developing and underdeveloped ones, have made great efforts in struggling to safeguard political independence while developing their economies and societies to raise their standard of living. In Southeast Asia, the trend of peace, stability, and cooperation among various countries has become ever more evident, thus creating favorable conditions for the development of our country.

Our ordinary session on this occasion is also being held in a joyous atmosphere in which our entire party, army, and people have been striving and won initial satisfactory achievements in realizing the sixth and seventh resolutions of the fifth Central Committee, the socioeconomic development plan, and the state budget plan for 1993-94 as endorsed by the Third National Assembly in its second ordinary session. Our National Assembly has also promoted and expanded its role, which are thus beneficial to the implementation of the constitution and various laws. Members of the National Assembly in each constituency also have promoted and expanded their roles. They have visited the people of all strata in each region regularly to encourage them and to inspect, follow up, and boost implementation of the socioeconomic development plan, state budget, and various regulations and laws at the local level.

They have also given attention to the petitions, views, and problems presented by the people and brought them to the attention of local party and administrative committees for joint discussion and settlement. Through the National Assembly members, the people have come to clearly understand the roles and duties of the deputies who represent the people and have worked for their interests and rights to mastery. In each area the people have felt comfortable in earning their living and been confident in their future and our popular democratic system.

Along with these favorable conditions and achievements won by our people, we should frankly accept the fact that our nation and people still face many difficulties and complicated problems in carrying out socioeconomic development work and improving their living conditions. It is, therefore, required that we take appropriate measures to settle those difficulties and problems step by step. To meet the requirements of state and social management, the Third National Assembly has endorsed the Constitution and a number of laws. Following the enforcement of the Constitution and laws, the state and society have been managed more effectively. Steps have been taken to manage the state and society through the implementation of the laws.

Our country's socioeconomic foundation has developed and prospered. The requirements of national development have increased daily. Economic relations and cooperation with foreign countries have been also enhanced. It is, therefore, required that we reconsider, improve, and perfect certain laws which have been already enacted in order to make them conform to today's practical conditions. At the same time, it is necessary to continue to study and implement more laws to perfect our state and social management apparatuses.

Based on the said requirements, in this session, we will discuss and endorse the amendment of the labor law and the law on the promotion and management of foreign investments in the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR]. The reason why we must urgently improve the two said laws is that the law on the promotion and management of foreign investments in the LPDR was put into effect before the enforcement of the constitution. As for the labor law, it is consisted of certain provisions which run counter to the constitution. It, therefore, needs to be readjusted so as to be in conformity with the constitution as well as the practical conditions on the socioeconomic development. The amendment of the aforesaid two laws is part of the amendment of various laws that will be done in the subsequent sessions.

After having the laws, the important point is organizing their implementation. Their implementation is considered to be a factor in determining the success and the efficiency of the enforced laws. In the past, we are of the view that law enforcement has also done its best in performing its duties. But, as the socioeconomic foundation has been increasingly expanded and the number of state and social management apparatuses has increased, the political quality of various law enforcement organizations must be raised in order to guarantee an ever more effective implementation of the laws. In addition, the tenure of these organizations as stipulated in the constitution has come to an end. In this session, it is, therefore, imperative for us to elect the chairman of the Supreme People's Court and the chief public prosecutor. We will also have to discuss the internal regulations of the National Assembly in order to make the organizational system of the National Assembly to become ever firmer and stronger so as to enable it to continue to efficiently implement its normal roles. We will also review experiences scored by our National Assembly in carrying out activities since the second ordinary session.

Distinguished assembly members, our ordinary session on this occasion is very significant, because contents of the issues that we will discuss and endorse in this session are related to the implementation of our party's restructuring line. They are also related to the raising the quality of this National Assembly. For this reason, it is required that all National Assembly members heighten their political responsibility. As representatives who have worked for the interests and rights to mastery of the people, we should comprehensively, profoundly, and thoroughly look at the problems and then contribute views to the session in a straightforward manner to successfully fulfill the objectives and expectations in making decisions on and endorsing the various significant issues that will be brought to the session for consideration. In this arousing and joyous atmosphere, as chairman of the session, I now would like to announce the third ordinary session of the Third National Assembly be officially opened. Thank you. [applause]

Philippines

Ramos Cites Threats of Rightist Military Rebels

BK0903030694 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 7 Mar 94 pp 1, 10

[By Jerry Esplanada]

[Excerpt] Fort Del Pilar, Baguio City—President Ramos yesterday said rightist extremists were still dividing the ranks of the Armed Forces [of the Philippines] and trying to derail the peace process. Speaking before this year's 224 graduates of the Philippine Military Academy (PMA) here, the president said, "There are still those among us who—instead of helping to rebuild—offer the counsel of reaction and retreat, who want to stop reform by fair or foul means." Mr. Ramos said he was referring to people who were pushing for a "short-cut change outside of our constitutional system."

Defense Secretary Renato S. De Villa also said rightist groups were "creating an atmosphere not conducive to the peace process." De Villa cited recent press statements issued by the Nationalist Revolutionary Alliance [as published] and the Young Officers Union (YOU) criticizing graft and corruption in the government.

Peace negotiations between the government and rightist rebels have stalled over several issues, including disagreements on the "talking points." In the government's program of rebuilding and reforming society, Mr. Ramos said, "Our Armed Forces must be the bedrock of support to government."

In the face of the "confusion of the times," he urged the PMA 1994 Class, called "Watch-Force," to "talk of programs for growth, not coups and military adventurism. We debate policies and reforms, not who does what to whom, and when we look at the world, we think of catching up, not of falling farther behind," he said.

Mr. Ramos, however, cited several hopeful signs that the country was moving toward peace. Most of the brightest rebels, he said, "are now realizing that the battle of ideas is best fought in the hearts and minds of our people, and not in urban centers turned into bloody battlefields."

Mr. Ramos also predicted that the 25-year communist insurgency would soon collapse. He said the country had regained its internal political stability and was in a position to achieve high economic growth. "The communist insurgency will soon end altogether," he said. "Our brothers in the hills, who waged war under a failed concept of revolution, are coming to see the practical wisdom of working together for peace."

Mr. Ramos was apparently referring to the several thousand New People's Army guerrillas whom officials said had applied for amnesty under a reconciliation policy he launched after taking office in 1992.

The military has estimated the present strength of communist rebels around 8,000, from a peak of more than 25,000 in 1987. Officials have said more than 40,000 people, mostly civilians, have died in fighting between government forces and rebels since the Marxist insurgency began in 1969.

Mr. Ramos also said Muslim rebels in Mindanao "are seeing that talking peace and development are better alternatives than violent secession."

He also stressed that all over the world, military forces "are redefining their missions to put people's protection, relief work and conservation of the environment on par with combat duty."

"The AFP's [Armed Forces of the Philippines] concurrent mission of community development and environmental protection possesses the attributes most conducive to economic development and nation building," he said.

Mr. Ramos also stressed the need to begin the long-term task of modernizing the Armed Forces to meet the needs of the new time. "Though the Cold War is over, our strategic importance in our Asia-Pacific region remains, and we must be prepared to meet both the challenges and opportunities this strategic importance confers," he said.

Mr. Ramos asked the new AFP officers to be "models of social responsibility" and "paragons of citizenship." He also reminded them "never to mistake an increase in personal wealth and power as a replacement for growth in moral strength and character. Our country will ask you always to place integrity above careerism, honor above self-interest, loyalty to country above loyalty to individualism and class," he said. [passage omitted]

Military Rebels Asked To Exercise Restraint

BK0903030394 Quezon City MALAYA in English 6 Mar 94 pp 1, 6

[By Joy Gruta]

[Excerpt] Fort del Pilar, Baguio City—Defense Secretary Renato de Villa urged Saturday military rebels to desist from making unnecessary propaganda which could create an atmosphere inimical to their ongoing peace talks with the government.

He made the statement in response to a call of the Young Officers Union (YOU) to the new graduates of the Philippine Military Academy (PMA) to pursue their goals of initiating reforms within the military establishment.

De Villa was the guest of honor at the parade and review and awarding ceremonies of PMA's Bantay Lakas [Watch Force] class. The graduation ceremonies will be held Sunday with President Ramos as guest.

The 224 graduating cadets include De Villa's son Patrick.

De Villa said he has brought to the attention of the government negotiating panel headed by Professor Alfredo Tadiar recent propaganda tactics of the Nationalist Revolutionary Alliance [as published] and YOU which he said sow confusion in the peace process.

He said he has also asked the government panel to ascertain if statements purportedly released by the group of former Lt. Col. Gregorio Honasan were genuine and authentic. [passage omitted]

Thailand

Commerce Minister Cited on U.S. Garment Pact

BK1003025094 Bangkok THAILAND TIMES in English 10 Mar 94 p A2

[Text] Bangkok—The commerce minister said it is necessary for Thailand to have the agreement on garment trading with the USA to help the private sector in terms of exporting the products which come under the current garment controlling quotas. Commerce Minister Uthai Phimchaichon said the agreement will be signed if the US approves Thailand's demands and conditions.

"The discussion will be going on as long as the US cannot agree on the conditions. We propose to set up the quotas," he said.

Uthai said Thailand will emphasize exporting high quality products. He added that the import tax structure on raw materials will be reduced so that the production cost will be considerably lower, allowing Thailand to compete with foreign countries.

President of the Thai Garment Industry Association, Wirot Amatakunchai, said that even though the world garment trade will enter free trade under the GATT agreement, and that in the next ten years the garment quota will be increased by 2.34 percent, it is still likely that the Thai garment industry, on the contrary, will encounter increased obstacles.

Wirot said Thailand now faced problems regarding the cotton price which has increased by 30 percent. He added, that it has been rumored that the price of cotton will be reduced by 30 percent this year.

"Garment traders therefore try their best to keep the cotton in stock. The production cost in the meantime has increased by 20 percent following the cotton price rise," he said. However, Wirot said it was expected that the situation will improve next month. Thailand now imports 80-90 percent of cotton used. Wirot made his statement during the seminar entitled "Summary on the Uruguay Round Trade Talks on General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) and the Repercussion on Thai Garments".

Intellectual Property Dispute With U.S. Discussed

BK0903121594 Bangkok PRACHACHAT THURAKIT in Thai 6-9 Mar 94 p 7

[Text] An informed source in the Export Promotion Department told PRACHACHAT THURAKIT that the Thai commercial center in Los Angeles recently sent the department its report on Thai-U.S. trade issues involving intellectual property and worker rights. The report states that Thai efforts to protect U.S. intellectual property have gained a positive support from Richard Gephardt, Democratic congressman from Missouri, who is considered highly influential with the Clinton administration.

The report from Los Angeles also gave furthur details on the situation following an accusation from the U.S. private sector on Thai violation of U.S. intellectual property rights applying to video and musical recordings, which caused about $120 million in damages for the U.S. entertainment industry, and on the Thai Government prohibiting state enterprise organizations to set up their labor unions. The Thai practices prompted the United States to announce that it will review all GSP privileges it had previously granted to the country.

In this regard, Thailand has tried continually to solve the problems concerning the protection of intellectual property. These include issuing various rules and regulations, suppressing producers of illegal tapes and videos, and implementing international guidelines for the protection of intellectual property.

Apart from these efforts, the Thai Government has also proposed a draft law on the establishment an intellectual property and international trade court to show its improvement in intellectual property protection. This court will handle both civil and criminal cases with judicial procedures to be carried out within six months. "These practices have prompted the United States to respond positively to the outcome of the Thai actions. An indication is that even Richard Gephardt, a leading figure in the majority party of the U.S. House of Representatives, has highly praised the Thai actions following his meeting with Prime Minister Chuan Likphai in January. However, the United States will continue to watch the actions of the Thai side closely because there still are several points that the Thai Government will have to correct," concluded the informed source.

Prasong Meets Cuban; Envoy Views U.S. Sanctions

BK1003073994 Bangkok MATICHON in Thai 10 Mar 94 p 4

[Text] Speaking to newsmen on 9 March after a meeting with Cuban Ambasssador Richardo Danza Sigas, Foreign Minister Squadron Leader Prasong Sunsiri said they discussed Thai-Cuban relations and ways to expand the currently low volume of bilateral trade.

On U.S. ecomomic sanctions against Cuba, the Cuban envoy said his country hopes that the United States will lift the sanctions as it has done with Vietnam. The foreign minister said these issues will be discussed with the Cuban foreign minister during his visit to Thailand on 11 March.

Army Involvement in Laos, Cambodia Investment

BK1003100194 Bangkok PHUCHATKAN in Thai 10 Mar 94 pp 1, 2

[Article: "The Military Readjusts To Deal With Indochina"]

[Text] The opening of the door to welcome the free economy in Indochina has excited businessmen and investors who want to use the northeast as an export base for important markets of the region. In the past three months prior to the inauguration of the Thai-Lao Friendship Bridge the government and the private sector have worked to turn the border into a special economic area and set up industrial estates in several border provinces.

Regarding security, there has been rapid reorganization as well as readjustments to border operations to suit the development trends in the northeast. The cabinet has approved the National Security Council proposal to set up the Border Policy Implementation Center under the directorship of the supreme commander. Instructions have also been given to the Army, the Army Regions, including the Second Army Region which oversees 19 northeastern provinces.

The Second Army Region was instructed on 3 March to establish a management center for the border provinces under its jurisdiction. The center will operate within the framework of peaceful resolution of border disputes and the avoidance of violence, relying first on the local mechanism. It will accelerate the settlement of border disputes, while the relations with the neighboring countries are good and will protect interests of the local people.

According to Lieutenant General Anuphap Songsunthon, commander of the Second Army Region, his command has issued instructions for the establishment of the

Thai-Lao Border Command Centers and the Thai-Cambodian Border Command Centers. The governors of the border provinces will head the centers.

The Thai-Cambodian Border Command Centers will be situated in four provinces—Ubon Ratchathani, Sisaket, Surin, and Buriram. Their main objectives are to serve the Thai private sector in trade and investment in Cambodia and protect their interest. They will not support any Cambodian faction, tolerate the existence of foreign forces in Thai territory, or the violation of Thai sovereignty. They will drastically suppress activities of foreign armed bandits by setting up check points and operating rapid deployment units. It will cooperate with other units to suppress the smuggling of contraband, arms, and vehicles.

The Thai-Lao Border Command Centers will be set up in Ubon Ratchathani, Loei, Nong Khai, Mukdahan, and Amnat Charoen provinces to support legitimate border activities and drastically suppress illegal trading. They will promote relations between local elements and cooperation to peacefully solve border problems.

Anuphap stressed that after the friendship bridge opens the objectives of the policy will remain the same but will emphasize the strengthening of ties at the local level as well as promoting the use of the bridge for contacts between Thailand and Laos.

The establishment of the centers at various levels by the security establishment amounts to the military's support of the government's policy and the policy's expansion to broaden contacts between Thailand and Laos and Cambodia to benefit trade and investment, while maintaining national security and avoiding disputes by the use of local mechanism.

The establishment of the command center in each province amounts to adjustment of the province's conduct toward the neighboring country. The operational staff of the Second Army Region is drafting the details for the center operations for the regional commander to sign into formal centers quickly.

Regarding the protection of important economic areas, Anuphap asserts that there is no security problem in the Second Army Region because the main forces of the army are already located there. There is no need for new deployment of weapons for the region. Investors can be confident in the Second Army Region.

The above preparations by the security establishment to open the northeastern region to Indochina are an important step in facilitating investors. They amount to a new chapter in cooperation by the Thai military from its previous posture of aggressive solution of border problems. This adjustment has given investors greater confidence.

Foreign Ministry Reports on Assistance to Cambodia

BK1003101994 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 0530 GMT 10 Mar 94

[Text] The Foreign Ministry's Information Department has reported on assistance under the triangle program for the reconstruction of Cambodia. According to it, Thailand has proposed to major donors cooperation under the triangle program of assistance for Indochina—with Thailand serving as the center, or providing facilities and personnel for projects being carried out.

Starting in 1994, Thailand, Japan, Malaysia, the Philippines, and Indonesia begin giving assistance to Cambodia under the triangle program by assisting Cambodian refugees who have returned home for resettlement in Kompong Speu and Takeo Provinces. They will be given guidance in rice cultivation, basic farming, fishing, fresh water fish farming, vocational training, training in sewing and handicraft, and primary health care. Japan will provide financial support while Thailand and other ASEAN countries will provide technical assistance.

Under the program, which began on 1 March, 10 experts from Thailand's Education, Agriculture and Cooperatives and Public Health Ministries will spend a year working in Cambodia. One group of four officials will be dispatched first, the second will arrive in Cambodia on 4 April. Their tenure may be extended later. There will also be an adjustment in the format and method of assistance in keeping with the level of development which Cambodia achieves.

Colonel Notes Burma, Lao Border Developments

BK1003074894 Bangkok MATICHON in Thai 10 Mar 94 p 13

[Text] Colonel Prasit Mongkhontham, deputy chief of staff of the Third Army Region, described the situation along the Lao and Burmese borders at the Phithak Thai Meeting Hall in Somdet Phra Ekathotsarot Camp, Phitsanulok Province at 1000 on 9 March. He said the forces of the Kachin minority group have signed a cooperation agreement with the Burmese Government. Two hundred armed followers of the National United Front under the leadership of Sanda and the Communist Party of Burma under its leader surrendered to Major Cho Tong, deputy commander of Battalion 4789, at its base in Ban Mae Chae, opposite Thailand's Tambon Mae La Noi, Mae Hong Son Province in order to negotiate a cease-fire. The Burmese soldiers did not confiscate the United Front members' weapons.

According to Prasit, about 150 members of a Burmese engineering battalion have been repairing the road between Myawadi and Ban Mae Kasa, opposite Thailand's Phop Phra District, Tak Province. They plan to repair the road to reach the Phra Chedi Sam Ong [Three Pagodas' Pass] border crossing in order to facilitate the conservation of forests in southern Burma and the control of minority groups in the area. This development could affect Thailand's security, particularly Thai villagers near the border.

On the Lao border situation, Prasit said the Lao Government has stepped up its suppression of antigovernment elements along the Thai border. Forces in Ban Yuap—opposite Thailand's Chiang Kham District, Phayao Province—have been augmented to suppress anti- Lao elements under the leadership of Generals Vang Pao and Thonglit, who have been active in the Mae Charim District and Song Khwae Subdistrict, Nan, and in Chiang Kham District, Phayao. It is necessary for the Third Army Region to force all anti-Lao elements to cease their activities as the 8 April opening of the Thai-Lao Friendship Bridge approaches.

Prasit said Generals Vang Pao and Thonglit are the targets of the current suppression campaign. This will likely result in more Lao people fleeing to Thailand. In that case, Thailand will have to force them back.

Burma's Invitation to ASEAN Meeting Assailed

BK1003025894 Bangkok THE NATION in English 10 Mar 94 p A6

[Editorial: "A big setback for Burma's pro-democracy movement"]

[Text] Burma's military leaders, considered pariahs throughout most of the world, have however found themselves as welcome guests at this year's meeting of Asean foreign ministers in late July. Exactly what kind of guests they will be has yet to be determined. The junta's representatives could be arriving as special friends of Thailand or as guests of the regional grouping as a whole.

The invitation, which has been agreed to in principle by senior Asean officials meeting in Bangkok, is to be made despite moves by the United Nations to censure Rangoon for its brutal rule and continued detention of Nobel laureate Aung San Suu Kyi.

The United Nations Human Rights Commission in Geneva was recently told that a system of repression is still in place in Burma which violates the fundamental rights of the Burmese people. Nonviolent critics of the Rangoon junta are continually being arrested and sentenced to long terms of imprisonment and a climate of fear prevails in the country.

Human rights are the same everywhere and their protection is the responsibility of the international community. Ideologies, national boundaries and local legal codes should not be obstacles to speaking out on behalf of others. Sadly, Asean seems to have overlooked this fact. As the saying goes, nothing should be allowed in the way when there's a baht to be made.

Rationalizing the decision, Foreign Ministry spokesman Suwit Simasakun said on Tuesday that "the isolation of Burma, as suggested by the Western countries, won't contribute to the development of this region".

The term "development" as espoused by the Foreign Ministry has little to do with moral principles and obviously much to do with economics. The current trend of thought among Asean leaders is that individual countries have the right to tackle human rights issues in their own way and that development has a priority over civil and political rights.

Since crushing pro-democracy protests in 1988 and securing its position in power, the reviled State Law and Order Restoration Council (Slorc) has embarked on a programme to revamp the economy, motivated by little more than self-preservation. Recent visitors to Rangoon have said that Slorc appears to be "succeeding" in breathing life into the long moribund economy, but Burmese have testified that their lives seem to be getting tougher with inflation running out of control.

The military junta itself has said that only when economic rights have been looked after will they (if ever) think about providing "political luxuries" such as a democratic government. Clearly, Slorc is rationalizing its human rights abuses now with the argument that it's all in the interests of economic progress, and that the Burmese people would rather have a full belly than a vote. But it has been indicated clearly that even if the Burmese people are allowed to vote—as in 1990—their verdict will be disregarded if the security of the regime is not enhanced in the country.

Sadly, the West's push for trade sanctions has failed because Burma has forged closer ties with its giant northern neighbour China. Trade between the two countries, despite traditional suspicions, is flourishing and China is now Burma's biggest trading partner.

For Asean, rather disgustingly, nothing matters more than profits and because of this they have obviously decided they can no longer wait to bring Burma into their circle. With China willing to run a trade deficit with Burma in return for the development of a strategic "friendship", this would seem to be a perfect justification.

But double standards prevail within the regional grouping, especially when it comes to Malaysia and Indonesia. Both Kuala Lumpur and Jakarta, which denounced the West for not doing enough to protect Muslims in Bosnia, seem to have forgotten their objections over Slorc's treatment of the Rohingya Muslim minority. Of the 288,000 Rohingyas who fled to Bangladesh in early 1992, 230,000 remain in camps along the border in Bangladesh because they fear military persecution.

Much to the disappointment of this paper, it seems Asean is unwilling to reverse its decision with regard to Burma's invitation to be in Bangkok in July. By this, the regional grouping has hammered another nail into the coffin of the pro-democracy movement in Burma. The generals in Burma marched into power over the corpses of young pro-democracy protesters, yet they are embraced with open arms by Asean. Frankly, such things happen only in nightmares. In this region, however, nightmares become realities when there's money to be made—regardless of whether despots respect their own people.

Officials 'Split' on Blame for Train Bombing

BK1003050694 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 10 Mar 94 p 3

[Text] Government agencies are reportedly split in their opinions as to who was responsible for Tuesday's railway bomb attack in Songkhla. Well-informed Interior Ministry sources disclosed that Fourth Army Region Commander Lt-Gen Kitti Rattanachaya has told the Interior Ministry that "a third party" was responsible for the attack. However, the police and the southern authority have submitted preliminary reports to the Interior Ministry blaming southern separatist bandits.

The sources said Lt-Gen Kitti in his report to the Interior Ministry said the bomb attack was not the work of members of Pattani United Liberation Organisation [PULO] but that of a "third hand" who wanted to create more problems for the Government. However, Southern Border Provinces Administration Centre Director Wisut Singkhachonworakun and the police said PULO separatists were behind the attack. Mr Wisut said it has yet to be established which faction of the group was responsible for the attack on the railway track in Chana District of Songkhla Province.

Local officials have been instructed to gather information to find out if this faction is a new or old group of the PULO, he said. Mr Wisut said no promises had been made to the separatist bandits as suggested by some news reports. It was reported that the group claimed in a letter left at the scene of the attack that the Southern Border Provinces Administration Centre had promised the bandits they would speed up the investigation into the torching of schools in the South last year. He said the centre would try to prevent a similar recurrence but admitted that the task would be difficult.

Police Department deputy chief Phong-amat Amattayakun said it was believed that the separatists might have received support from overseas. Pol Gen [Police General] Phong-amat said local politicians should be able to help play a role in solving the problem of subversive activities in the South as they were familiar with local problems. "The incident (the bomb attack) is a political problem. The local politicians should know it well and should help solve it," Pol Gen Phongamat said.

Meanwhile, deputy Police Department chief for crime suppression Phot Bunyachinda yesterday ordered security to be beefed up at public buildings as well as bus and train terminals after Tuesday's attack. In his order to the regional police headquarters in the South, policemen are to set up highway checkpoints and conduct random searches of vehicles of suspicious looking people around the clock to prevent another attack.

Interior Minister Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut yesterday ruled out speculation that the bomb attack at Songkhla was designed to discredit him. Gen Chawalit said the police have submitted a preliminary report but he would have to wait for a detailed investigation and analysis to determine if the attack was really conducted by the PULO, as stated in the letter placed at the blast site.

Gen Chawalit said it was probably the work of certain movements that have been operating for 40-50 years already, which have begun using weapons. The New Aspiration Party leader said the public should understand that such movements are not ordinary criminal cases, therefore, it is not possible for officials to take immediate action against the culprits. Gen Chawalit said it was difficult to prevent such incidents from happening because of the continuous flow of war weapons and aliens across the border. He said the police were doing well in the fight against the sale and smuggling of war weapons, but the battle was still far from won.

Gen Chawalit said it is noticeable that the groups are beginning to come out of the woodwork. "The people should carefully watch their movements without being shaken about it." The Interior Minister said one should understand that the bomb blasts have occurred in many places and would continue to happen because there are many kinds of people in society, where there are different kinds of conflicts, both concerning personal issues and business.

The Interior Minister said he had also received reports about the bomb blast at Labour and Social Welfare Ministry permanent secretary Sawai Phrammani's house in Nakhon Ratchasima, but has not yet spoken to Mr Sawai about the matter.

Asked about a committee set up to look into incidents occurring in the South, chaired by Deputy Prime Minister Banyat Banthatthan, with the interior minister as deputy chairman, Gen Chawalit said the committee was at the administrative level.

Vietnam

Man Sentenced to 15 Years for 'Rebellion'

BK1003044094 Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 7 Feb 94 p 4

[Text] On 5 February, the Ho Chi Minh City People's Court opened the first instance trial of Pham Van Quang on a charge of "rebellion".

Pham Van Quang, born in 1942, a resident of Phuoc Binh village, Thu Duc District, deliberately engaged in a rebellious act in a public place when Ho Chi Minh City was hosting its first international marathon on 16 December 1992. On that day, Pham Van Quang drove his family car to Me Linh Square with the intention of creating trouble. He reasoned that many people, especially foreigners, visit this place each day and that his act might produce political repercussions. At noon, Quang climbed onto the hood of his car and waved a flag. He fired a revolver at intervals to draw people's attention. He reloaded his gun five times, firing a total of 19 shots. Seeing this, people in the vicinity immediately tried to stop Quang, but were driven back when he pulled the pin of an M26 grenade to frighten them. Quang was later arrested along with his exhibits.

The Ho Chi Minh City People's Court sentenced Pham Van Quang to 15 years imprisonment on the charge of "rebellion." After serving his jail term, Quang will be on parole for five years and will be deprived of some of his rights as a citizen.

Editorial Views Post-Embargo Business Strategy

BK0903121294 Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 17 Feb 94 pp 1,3

[Editorial: "Form Large Economic Groups Which Are Strong Enough To Compete"]

[Text] Soon after the lifting of the U.S. trade embargo, American-made Pepsi soft drinks have begun to be produced in Vietnam. For many years, they were imported from foreign countries to meet popular demand. Thus, the production of Pepsi did not take place in Vietnam until after the lifting of the U.S. trade embargo and a spectacular yet harsh competition has already occurred in the Vietnamese market between Coca-Cola and Pepsi. The question to ponder is: Two major U.S. soft drink companies are already operating in Vietnam. What will happen to our soft drink companies? Will they survive or die?

Some 20 U.S. construction companies have tendered bids for the construction of many segments of National Highway No. 1 with loans and funding from various international monetary and financial institutions. Dozens of other U.S. companies specializing in different sectors have also brought their goods, machinery, equipment, and technology to the Giang Vo Trade Fair in Hanoi. More American companies are expected to do business in Vietnam. Research results released by some American companies indicate that within the next two years, business activity in Vietnam will reach as much as 2.7 billion dollars. Needless to say, there will be harsh competition among American companies themselves, between American companies and other foreign companies, and between American companies and Vietnamese companies.

Therefore, it can be said that with the lifting of the U.S. embargo, we enjoy an opportunity and also face a challenge. It is an opportunity because the lifting of the trade embargo provides us with a very good chance—provided that we are smart and vigilant—to have access to capital and modern technology to develop new trades and occupations, increase economic activities, and generate more jobs, thereby turning the strong points of the outside world into our own strength. Meanwhile, we face a not-too-insignificant challenge. American companies all have huge financial assets with billions of dollars at their disposal. Furthermore, they have the best technology in the world. As for our companies, it is difficult to compare them with their American counterparts in all respects. Therefore, as far as direct business transactions are concerned, it will be very easy for us to lose if we are not wise enough.

As for macro-management, to be strong enough to compete in future business activities, we need to initiate the following tasks as soon as possible:

—Forming large economic groups which are financially strong enough to compete. Each group must have at least several thousand billion dong as capital.

—Taking urgent steps to train a contingent of management cadres who are highly professional, businesswise, and quick at mastering modern technology.

Good cadres and capital are the minimum basic conditions for new business activities.

To succeed in forming large economic groups, the first decisive factor rests with unity. In wartime, all of our people remained united in the struggle to wrest back independence and do away with the shame of losing our country. At present, let all of us unite in the struggle to make the country powerful and eliminate poverty and backwardness. Let our economic units merge into large groups to work toward our common goals. The workstyle that we have followed so far in which small-scale business activities prevail, every businessman is for himself, and everyone pursues short-term profits at the expense of common interests will only harm us and weaken our potential. That workstyle is no longer suitable with large-scale business activities in the days ahead.

It is also worth noting that while doing business in Vietnam, all major foreign economic companies or groups of companies must abide by Vietnamese law. Therefore, in macro-management, it is necessary for the state to perfect the legal system and where necessary, work out incentives to encourage foreign business people to invest in those preferred foreign-funded projects and limit investment where local investors can manage or in those projects which do not meet Vietnam's conditions and economic development requirements.

Competition plays an essential role in the market mechanism. Business operations are under state management. Nonetheless, the decisive factor of success rests primarily with the strength of each economic unit and with the potential of our country as a whole.

Do Muoi Holds Talks With DPRK Party Delegation

BK1003150994 Hanoi VNA in English 1430 GMT 10 Mar 94

[Text] Hanoi VNA March 10—General Secretary Do Muoi received in Ho Chi Minh City yesterday a delegation of the Workers' Party of Korea (WPK) led by Hwang Chang-yop, secretary of the party Central Committee in charge of external relations affairs, which paid an official friendship visit to Vietnam from March 7-10.

During the reception, General Secretary Do Muoi welcomed the visit as an important contribution to the consolidation and development of the friendship between the parties and peoples. He thanked the Korean people for their support for the Vietnamese people's struggle against US aggression. He reaffirmed that the Vietnamese party, Government and people have always supported the cause of socialist construction, and the struggle for peace, sovereignty and reunification of the Korean people.

For his part, Hwang Chang-yop informed Do Muoi of the achievements recorded by the Korean people in recent years, and expressed his wish to further develop the solidarity and friendship between the two parties and peoples.

Mr. Hwang conveyed president Kim Il-song's invitation to Mr. Do Muoi to visit the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. The Vietnamese leader accepted the invitation with pleasure.

DPRK Ambassador to Vietnam Han Min-chol was also present at the the event.

The same day, advisor to the party Central Committee Nguyen Van Linh received the Korean guests during which the former expressed his satisfaction at the fine development of the relationship between the two parties and peoples, and wished that it would be further developed.

Mr. Hwang also conveyed President Kim Il-song's invitation to Nguyen Van Linh to visit the DPRK and the latter accepted it with pleasure.

While in Vietnam, the WPK delegation met with Pham The Duyet, Politburo member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee [CPV CC] and secretary of the Hanoi party committee, Vo Tran Chi, Politburo member of the CPV CC and secretary of the Ho Chi Minh City party committee. It had working sessions with the Vietnam Union of Peace, Solidarity and Friendship Organizations, the Vietnam-DPRK Friendship Association and the Vietnam Committee for Solidarity With the Korean People. It also toured some economic and cultural establishments in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City.

The delegation left Ho Chi Minh City today, concluding its visit to Vietnam.

Further on Visit by Dutch Foreign Minister

Meets With Nguyen Manh Cam

BK1003145594 Hanoi VNA in English 1423 GMT 10 Mar 94

[Text] Hanoi VNA March 10—Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam today held talks at the government guest house with visiting Dutch Foreign Minister Peter Kooijmans.

During the talks F.M. Nguyen Manh Cam informed his Dutch counterpart of Vietnam's current situation and initial achievements in the renovation process. He highlighted the recently important changes for the better in the relations between Vietnam and other countries in the region and in other parts of the world. Mr. Cam expressed his wish for the further development of the friendship and cooperation between Vietnam and the Netherlands.

For his part, P.M. Kooijmans spoke highly of Vietnam's results in its renovation process and open-door policy. He said he believed that his visit would mark an important step in the development of the friendship and cooperation in various fields between Vietnam and the Netherlands. The two ministers also exchanged views on international issues of common concern.

Also in this morning the two foreign ministers signed an agreement on investment encouragement and protection between Vietnam and the Netherlands.

Present at the signing ceremony were deputy head of the State Commission for Cooperation and Investment Nguyen Nhac, and Dutch Ambassador to Vietnam Mr. D. Ader.

Meets National Assembly Chairman

BK1003151694 Hanoi VNA in English 1432 GMT 10 Mar 94

[Text] Hanoi VNA March 10—National Assembly Chairman Nong Duc Manh today received Dutch Foreign Minister Peter Kooijmans who is here for an official visit to Vietnam.

Deputy Foreign Minister Nguyen Dy Nien, Dutch Ambassador to Vietnam D. Ader were on hand.

Speaking at the reception, Chairman Manh and F.M. Kooijmans compared notes on issues of common concern, including those relating to the socio-economic development in Vietnam in the renovation period.

Chairman Nong Duc Manh wished for the further development of the Vietnam-Netherlands friendship and cooperation.

Vice President Visits Guinea Bissau 1-4 Mar

BK0903065694 Hanoi VNA in English 1427 GMT 7 Mar 94

[Text] Hanoi VNA March 7—Vice President Nguyen Thi Binh paid an official visit to Guinea-Bissau from March 1-4, as guest of the Vice President of the State Council Mr. Vasco Cabral.

While in Guinea-Bissau, Vice President Nguyen Thi Binh paid a courtesy visit to President of the State Council Joao Bernando Vieira. She held talks with Vice President of the State Council Vasco Cabral.

During the talks, the two sides discussed orientations and measures to promote the cooperative relations in economic, trade and other fields between the two countries. They expressed their belief that the existing fraternal friendship and solidarity between vietnam and Guinea-Bissau is the 'carved stone' for the two countries to enter into new cooperation conforming to the conditions and interests of each country.

At the end of the visit, the two sides issued a joint communique and signed agreement on economic, scientific and technological, cultural and trade cooperation.

On this occasion, Vietnamese businessmen who accompanied Vice President Nguyen Thi Binh signed minutes of understanding on good exchanges with their partners in Guinea Bissau.

Speaking to the press before leaving, Mrs Nguyen Thi Binh expressed her satisfaction at the good results of her visit to Guinea Bissau, the last leg of her Africa tour. She also expressed her belief that the traditional friendship between the two countries will further develop.

Australia

$8.5 Million Bridge Project for Cambodia

BK1003095894 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0500 GMT 10 Mar 94

[Text] The Australian Government has opened tenders for the rebuilding of up to 16 medium span bridges in Cambodia in an aid project worth $8.5 million [Australian dollars]. The project followed the construction of six bridges along Cambodia's national Route-5 from Phnom Penh to the border with Thailand.

The federal minister for development cooperation, Gordon Bilney, said the latest bridge project matches Australian engineering expertise with Cambodia's development priority. The bridge rebuilding is part of a nearly $17 million worth of development projects Australia is funding in Cambodia this year.

Mr. Bilney also announced the $600,000 grant for credit scheme in Cambodia aimed at helping people at the village level start small businesses and agricultural schemes.

Papua New Guinea

Curfew Imposed in 'Parts' of Northern Bougainville

BK0803092294 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0500 GMT 8 Mar 94

[Text] Renewed fighting between Papua New Guinea Government troops and Bougainville Revolutionary Army troops has led to the imposition of a curfew in parts of northern Bougainville. North Solomons Province Administrator Sam Tulo says the curfew comes following the murder of a police officer last week and an incident during which two rebels were shot dead. Mr. Tulo says all the attacks took place in northern Bougainville where rebels have stepped up action, particularly around the Wakunai government station. He says the situation is also tense in central Bougainville, where clashes between rebels and government troops have resulted in the death of one man and the wounding of four others.

Vanuatu

Opposition Rejects Offer To Join Coalition

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[Text] PORT VILA, March 8 (AFP)—The opposition Vanuaaku Pati (VP) Tuesday rejected an offer to join the ruling coalition government saying it would not be getting enough ministerial portfolios. Last week the VP helped to elect Jean-Marie Leye, candidate of the main ruling party, the Union of Moderate Parties, president of Vanuatu after two earlier attempts had failed.

In return for this help in the electoral college vote, the VP asked for four ministries in the government, including the finance and lands portfolios. Later Prime Minister Maxime Carlot said the opposition party would get "at least two" ministerial portfolios. But government sources said the offer made in writing Friday by Carlot contained only one ministerial portfolio, labour and training—which was to be created—and two parliamentary posts, leader of government business and first deputy speaker.

VP coordinator Peter Taurakoto told AFP Tuesday that his party had refused the offer because it was not in line with the verbal "gentleman's agreement" between Kalpokas and Carlot. "The door is not closed and we're still ready to help if the government sees there is a need," Taurakoto said.

The ruling coalition government has 24 members in the 46-seat house where the VP has nine members.

Leye was elected March 2 by 41 of the 55-member electoral college.

Opposition Parliamentarian Joins Coalition

BK1003095494 Hong Kong AFP in English 0746 GMT 10 Mar 94

[Text] PORT VILA, March 10 (AFP)—Opposition parliamentarian Franky Stevens, son of late secessionist leader Jimmy Stevens, joined Vanuatu's governing coalition Thursday, the prime minister's office announced here.

Stevens is the lone parliamentarian of the Nagriamel peasant movement which was started by his father.

Government spokesperson Yvette Sam told AFP it was "highly probable" that Stevens could be offered one of the two parliamentary posts currently vacant, either deputy speaker of parliament or leader of government business.

The government received a letter Wednesday from Stevens which said he wanted to join the government's side,

Following Stevens' defection from the opposition, the governing coalition led by the Union of Moderate Parties (UMP), controls 25 of the 46 seats in parliament.

In May 1979, only two months before Vanuatu became independent, Jimmy Stevens—who died on February 28—launched a secessionist movement in Espiritu Santo island which was eventually put down with the aid of Papua New Guinea forces.

When the UMP was originally formed more than 20 years ago, the Nagriamel movement was one of its member parties.